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Clashes continue

A member of Hebron's Jewish community throws a stone from her balcony yesterday at Palestinians below. Story, Page 2.

PM revives unity gov't talk

By SARAH HONIG

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu once more revived speculation about a national unity coalition, when he told television interviewers over the weekend that he had not yet reached a decision on whether to invite Labor to join his government.

He said he is weighing the options and expects to make up his mind soon. Netanyahu then went on to supply reasons both for and against the national unity option.

Meanwhile, a new rumor was floated yesterday — that Labor Party leader Shimon Peres might enter the government without his party, if he fails to win central committee majority for such a move. The Prime Minister's Office last night denied this.

Peres has been an enthusiastic unity advocate and the consensus in Labor is that he wants to bring his party into the government before a new party leader is elected in the June 3 primary. He would thus become the senior Labor minister and retain leadership status no matter who is elected in his

stead. For this reason, front-runner leadership candidate MK Ehud Barak hotly opposes a national unity coalition.

The prime minister's cryptic utterance intensified the turmoil in Labor and served to polarize divided opinions even further. Barak accused Netanyahu of chicanery, while Peres expressed confidence that he can muster a majority in Labor for entering the Netanyahu government.

Speaking from Italy, Netanyahu used scheduled interviews on both TV stations at Friday night's peak viewing time to refer to national unity. He said he was in a quandary.

"I have been weighing the matter, but I have not yet decided. I have consulted colleagues and several ministers — some have clear views and others are undecided, as I am," he said he expects to reach a conclusion soon.

The advantage of a national unity government, he said, lies in the fact that "if we indeed enter final-status negotiations, these will be the most critical in the state's history, and we must then

ask whether expanding the government will improve our ability to conduct these negotiations and conclude them."

However, Netanyahu said he is also well aware of the dangers. "We might end up with a situation in which there are two centers of power inside the government, which Arafat will just play against each other."

Barak lambasted Netanyahu for "speaking disingenuously." He knows it is nothing but base trickery to foment more discord inside Labor and to confuse the general public. He knows the positions of the large parties are too far apart and he is not ready for a total radical overhaul of the government guidelines, which is what it would take to get Labor to join the government.

"Netanyahu would have to get up and admit he is an utter failure in everything. He would have to say that he was wrong about everything from the outset and to change his policy accordingly. This does not seem likely."

Continued on Page 4

Levy: EU presses Arafat on terror

Foreign minister meets current EU president

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

The European Union is stepping up pressure on Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to fight terrorism in order to salvage the peace process, Foreign Minister David Levy said yesterday.

Levy was speaking after meeting Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van Mierlo, whose country currently holds the rotating EU presidency, in his Beit She'an home. Van Mierlo met Arafat in Gaza on Friday to discuss the stalled peace talks.

Levy said van Mierlo made it clear to Arafat that the basic condition for advancing the peace talks is a Palestinian promise to combat terror. Levy expressed satisfaction that both the Europeans and Americans had demanded this as a condition for

reopening the talks. The EU is formulating a proposal

PA defends role in capturing Hamas cell, Page 2

al for jump-starting the Israeli-Palestinian talks, based on the Palestinians stopping terrorism and Israel freezing construction in the settlements and in eastern Jerusalem. EU envoy Miguel Moratinos discussed the proposal with Levy last week.

However, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who visited Holland last week, rejected the EU's proposal, making it clear he is against direct European involvement in the peace process. Netanyahu stressed that the EU

cannot replace the United States, which is playing the major role in the process.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa said yesterday that the EU initiative did not fully reflect Arab views, but it was better than what the US or Israel had to offer, Reuters reported. Moussa said the EU should increase its role in trying to get Israeli-Palestinian peace talks back on track.

"The EU initiative does not reflect an Arab stand, and consequently...needs a lot of additions and amendments," Moussa told reporters. "But the European thinking is better than that of the Israelis and the US...it has good, positive ideas."

Levy said last night that he is still considering whether Israel should take part in the Barcelona conference, saying Israel would not participate if the conference is exploit-

ed for anti-Israeli resolutions.

Asked about the possibility of a national unity government, Levy said the issue is not on the agenda right now, and is unrealistic because the two major parties haven't discussed guidelines vis-a-vis final-status talks with the Palestinians. He noted that he was not concerned about his own position, saying, "nobody did me any favors in appointing me."

Meanwhile, Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani discussed the Palestinian track in a meeting with German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel in Germany over the weekend, Idm reported.

Kinkel proposed that Israel dispatch a senior diplomat to explain its policies to European countries. "Israel must not act as though the whole world is against it, and the correct explanation of the subject can be helpful," he said.

ANALYSIS

By SARAH HONIG

Did Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu really say anything new this weekend when he turned the handle of the national unity rumor mill yet again? Not at all.

He has already said several times that he has not decided in favor of a national unity government, but cleverly did not state that he opposes the unity option. This is exactly what he did Friday, too. He wasn't any more decisive one way or the other. His message was that everything is possible.

What is new is mainly how he dispatched the message this time — in two TV interviews in prime time. It was no slip of the tongue

or anything he was drawn into by his interlocutors, but a premeditated political move.

For what purpose? As Netanyahu himself stressed, he can go either way. However, it is clear that a national unity government would be difficult, both because of the huge opposition it would generate inside the Likud and Labor and because it would alienate the other coalition partners.

Moreover, it should be noted that Netanyahu did not just say he was thinking about it. He gave a cogent reason why not to expand the coalition.

He is afraid that Shimon Peres, at the head of a Labor cabinet

contingent, would basically go behind his back and try to cut a deal with Yasser Arafat or would undermine Netanyahu's negotiating stance by pulling the other way. This is no unsubstantiated fear. Netanyahu no doubt remembers full well the deal Peres made with the Jordanians behind Yitzhak Shamir's back while serving in Shamir's government. That he raised such an argument points to considerable doubts in Netanyahu's mind.

So what is his purpose? It should be remembered that Netanyahu is under severe American and international pres-

Continued on Page 4

Wake up and smell the cardomom, soldier

By ARNOLD O'SULLIVAN

Who says minorities get a bad deal in the army?

Following complaints from Beduin and Druse soldiers that army coffee is tasteless, the Southern Command purchased 200 kilos of coffee, mixed with cardamom for an Arab-style cup of java.

Soldiers in what the IDF calls "minority units" had been bringing their own coffee from home, since they couldn't get the flavor they were used to.

According to the IDF weekly *Bamahaneh*, Maj. Arye, deputy quartermaster for the Southern Command, said the coffee was purchased for the Druse Hanu Battalion and the command's all-Beduin reconnaissance battalion.

Senior Warant Officer Meron Salomon, who is responsible for food in the Southern Command, said that the soldiers in these units did not like the army coffee. Salomon said they asked the

central IDF purchasing department to make a special purchase of the coffee with the cardamom flavor, even though it costs more money.

The command was given 200 kilos and told it was a six-week supply.

The troops like it so much that the IDF intends to continue supplying them with it.

Army kitchens often serve up a mysterious dark, warm drink that can lead to wild mess hall debates over whether it is actually tea or coffee.

The Jordanians are known to despise IDF coffee and during the recent visit to Amman by Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai Jordanian officers who had visited IDF bases actually claimed the coffee served to them tasted like it was "mixed with humous."

Betar's lead cut to 5 points

Betar Jerusalem stumbled to its second loss in as many weeks, going down 2-0 at home to Macabbi Haifa.

The defeat cut Betar's lead at the top of the National League to five points.

Story, Page 9

Wakf breaks into Greek Patriarchate, claims rooms

By HAIM SHAPIRO

In what the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate described as an unprecedented act, the Jerusalem Wakf (Moslem religious trust) has broken into the patriarchate and taken over two rooms.

Metropolitan Timothy, secretary of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate, said that the rooms, which are occupied by a priest who is presently abroad, are adjacent to construction work being done on the Hamka Mosque, right near the Church of the Holy Sepulcher.

He said that workmen employed by the Wakf had broken through a common wall, thrown the clothing and furniture belonging to the priest into another room, locked the door, and then blocked the doorway with stones. He said the Greek Orthodox authorities only learned of the action last week.

The Wakf, which is now controlled by the Palestinian Authority and headed by Hassan Tahboub, Palestinian Minister for Religious Affairs, claims that it owns the two rooms. Israeli sources say the act is an attempt by the PA to extend Moslem control in eastern Jerusalem.

Timothy said that the patriarchate had complained to the Wakf,

which in turn asked that representatives of both sides meet to discuss the matter. As far as the patriarch is concerned, the matter is very clear, Timothy said. However he said he still believes the issue could be resolved in an amicable manner.

"We are sure they will realize it was a grave mistake and restore the property to us," he said.

He added, however, that this is not the first infraction by the Wakf in the area. He said that the construction work itself, which is being done without a building permit, has encroached on the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, over which

the Wakf is building toilets for the mosque.

Last week, Timothy said, the heads of the historic churches had written to the Wakf to complain of the encroachment and called on the mosque authorities to stop the work until the two sides could meet to discuss the matter. The Wakf neither responded nor stopped the construction, he said.

Uri Mor, director of the Christian Communities department of the Religious Affairs Ministry, said that the Wakf action constituted a serious infraction of the status quo at the holy places.

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NEWS

in brief

20,000 Palestinian laborers to be admitted

Israel has decided to significantly ease the closure on the territories and as of this morning is allowing 20,000 Palestinian laborers from the West Bank and Gaza Strip into the country.

The move was approved jointly by Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak. Those being allowed in are at least 35 years old, married, and have passed a security check.

In addition, 50 Palestinian trucks are to be allowed to transport goods daily from Ashdod Port into Palestinian-controlled areas.

Arieh O'Sullivan

No passports, ID cards today due to sanctions

Some 10,000 employees of 15 government ministries are to carry out work sanctions today. They are demanding that the Treasury honor an agreement last year to give them an additional monthly payment from this month.

From 7:30 this morning, ministry workers will not answer phones or send mail. Interior Ministry employees will not issue passports or identity cards.

Iim

Settler suspect in shooting released

Yossi Levy, a resident of Dolev arrested for shooting and seriously wounding a Palestinian stonethrower in Harbata last Monday, was released on bail by Jerusalem Magistrate's Court on Friday afternoon.

The court rejected a request by police to extend his remand until the end of legal proceedings, but prohibited him from leaving Dolev and confiscated his gun. A police spokesman said police had concluded their investigation and would recommend pressing charges against Levy, a 44-year-old father of five who served as an officer in a combat unit.

Iim

Assad appoints son Bashar to senior post

Syrian President Hafez Assad recently named his son Bashar to head a newly created presidential council that is to supervise Syrian affairs of state, the French weekly *Le Point* revealed yesterday. This nomination seems to confirm that Bashar Assad is being groomed to succeed his father. Although Syria's constitution says that the minimum age for being elected as president is 40, recent reports from Damascus indicate that Assad is considering modifying the constitution, to assure that Bashar, who is in his early 30's, can replace him if Assad's failing health prevents him from functioning as president.

Eldad Beck

Nehama Leibowitz, scholar, dies at 92

Prof. Nehama Leibowitz, the noted Bible scholar, Israel Prize winner, and much-loved teacher of Torah to thousands of students here and abroad, died yesterday in Jerusalem at the age of 92.

Born in Latvia, she was educated at Berlin and Marburg universities, and immigrated here in 1925. From her early years here, she worked in education, particularly adult education.

She gained worldwide popularity with her *Gilyonot* (sheets on the weekly Torah portion), which were mailed to students all over the globe. The sheets consisted of questions on the portion, to which students

responded. For years, she personally checked each set of answers.

She was also a popular lecturer and for a time spoke regularly on the radio, in addition to lecturing at several universities. Leibowitz wrote more than a dozen books on the Bible, including her popular *Studies* series of commentary on each of the five books of the Torah.

In recognition of her research, she was awarded the Israel Prize for Education in 1957. She was also awarded the Samuel Rothberg prize in Jewish Education in 1986.

She will be buried today in Jerusalem at 3.

Jerusalem Post Staff



Nehama Leibowitz

With great sorrow we announce the passing of one of the great teachers of our generation

Prof. NEHAMA LEIBOWITZ
of blessed memory

The funeral will take place today, Sunday, April 13, 1997 (6 Nissan 5757), at 3:00 p.m. at the New Beit Hahalvayot, Har Tamir near Har Hamenuhot, Givat Shaul, Jerusalem

Touro College
its teachers and students

Friends of Ohel Chava
express their condolences to Mrs Sarah Finkel
upon the passing of her husband

Rabbi E. MEYER FINKEL
חסידים יום אהובת בתם שרה אהרן
The shiva is at Rehov Givat Moche 2, Jerusalem

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DALIAH MOST

on the 30th day after her passing,
we will unveil the tombstone tomorrow,
Monday, April 14, 1997.

Meet at 5 p.m. at Kiryat Shaul main gate.
We thank all those who share in our sorrow.

The Most family

To Senta and Simcha Frame
and all members of the family
We join you in mourning the passing of your daughter

RUTHIE

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PA warns
 Hamas

Arafat aide: We chose peace

By JON IMMANUEL

Whoever tries to overthrow the Palestinian Authority's strategic decision for peace with Israel risks war with the PA, a top adviser to PA Chairman Yasser Arafat said yesterday. He was commenting on a Hamas charge of betrayal over the PA's help in capturing six members of a Hamas cell.

The sixth member of the West Bank Hamas cell which was responsible for the kidnap-murder of Staff-Sgt. Sharon Edri, the Tel Aviv cafe bombing and seven other Israeli deaths was captured in Bethlehem Thursday by Palestinian Preventive Security Service forces. The PA police earlier captured two others in Hebron.

Ibrahim Ghosheh, a Hamas spokesman in Amman, said in a statement quoted by Reuter Friday that Hamas considers itself "betrayed and stabbed in the back by the Palestinian security apparatus."

Nabil Abu Rudeineh, adviser to PA Chairman Yasser Arafat, said the threats from Hamas are unacceptable. "We signed an agreement. The days of fighting against Israel are over. This is our strategic decision. When the Jordanians interfered in our decision, we went to war with them. When the Syrians did the same, we went to war with them. Once a strategic decision is taken, we don't allow anyone to interfere, whether [they be] Jordanians, Syrians or Palestinians."

Parents of terror
victims demand
conditions for
renewal of talks

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

The parents of Yaron and Efrat Ungar, who were killed by members of the Kafr Tzurif terror gang in a drive-by shooting last June, sent a letter to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Friday demanding two conditions for the renewal of peace talks with the Palestinians.

Ori and Yehudit Dasberg of Alon Shvut and Meir and Yehudit Ungar of Sha'arei Tikva, said that the first condition is the extradition of the terrorists. The second one regards any future pullbacks, with the parents insisting Israel must maintain overall security control to prevent terrorists from seeking refuge in autonomous areas.

"The capture of two terrorists in Kafr Tzurif was only due to the IDF's control in the area, and the capture of the other three was prevented because of the current situation, in which IDF forces are not allowed to enter Hebron, where the Palestinian Authority is in control. It is inconceivable that we support terror by releasing murderers," the letter read.

In addition, the families said it was inconceivable that the security of the State of Israel is dependent on the will of such a "wicked" man, presumably meaning PA Chairman Yasser Arafat, although he was not named.

Hebron clashes continue
over the weekend

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Fierce clashes between IDF and Border Police units and Palestinians continued in Hebron on Friday and yesterday.

Palestinian sources reported five persons wounded by rubber bullets yesterday, one a Palestinian policeman. According to the IDF Spokesman, an IDF officer and a border policeman were wounded in rioting on Friday, but none was hurt in yesterday's clashes.

Rioting broke out in the cashab at noon yesterday, and a number of firebombs and stones were thrown at troops, the IDF Spokesman said. Palestinians threw stones at Beit Hadassah and rioting broke out at El-Fawar junction near Hebron, where troops arrested one rioter.

The Hebron Jewish Community demanded last night that the IDF and Border Police deal with rioters more firmly. Community spokesman Noam Arnon said that rioters reached the entrance to Beit Hadassah and it was inconceivable that no one was arrested.

"During the heavy rioting over the past week we noticed that many of the Palestinian rioters who were arrested by the IDF troops were released later," said

Arnon. He added that if the rioters were arrested and treated more firmly it may serve as a deterrent and help to quell the escalation in violence.

"We have also seen instances where Palestinian policemen take an active part in the riots and throw stones and even firebombs, but as soon as they see us looking at them they run and hide," he said.

One Palestinian man was lightly injured by stones thrown by Hebron Jews, The Associated Press reported.

In Friday's rioting, when one border policeman and one IDF officer were wounded by rocks in the cashab, several IDF and Border Police vehicles were also damaged.

The IDF said an Israeli citizen was lightly hurt from stones thrown at a car near Kadumim; troops immediately searched the area. Near Yafir, a firebomb was hurled at a vehicle with Israeli license plates, but nobody was injured.

Late Friday afternoon a firebomb was thrown at the car of a Netzarim settler, but it exploded harmlessly. According to Netzarim spokesman Shlomo, the firebomb was thrown near Netzarim junction in the Gaza Strip, some 50 meters from where Palestinian policemen were standing.

Former Libyan PM: Arabs must seek realistic peace with Israel

By DOUGLAS DAVIS

LONDON - Former Libyan prime minister Abdelhamid Bakkoush has urged Arab leaders to abandon their illusions, stop pursuing an impossible peace and negotiate whatever deal they can get with Israel.

Writing in the London-based, Saudi-owned daily *al-Hayat*, he said that in the past the Arabs made war against Israel without proper military preparations and today

they appear equally unprepared to make peace. He said they should negotiate seriously for what they believe they are entitled to.

The Cairo-based Bakkoush, one of Libya's last premiers before King Idris was toppled by Muammar Gaddafi, challenged Arab negotiators to make a realistic assessment of their situation and counseled them to pursue "the peace of the possible."

All talk of negotiating with Israel

and concluding peace treaties is unrealistic, Bakkoush said, if the Arabs are determined to seek to recover their rights in full while refusing to accept that the Israelis had equivalent rights.

"On the other hand, once we recognize the impossibility of using or threatening to use force, there is no reason for us to carry on behaving as though we can turn to war if we don't get what we want through negotiations," he said.

"It might have been useful to

threaten the use of force in the old days when we still went to war against Israel, with negative results, but we know - and they know - that all we can do for the time being is send people into the streets to die or create unrest. It might be more worthwhile to seek a possible, rather than an impos-

ble, peace."

Bakkoush added: "Those who opt for a negotiated peace must spare no [peaceful] efforts to achieve the best possible results. When you can't threaten your opponent, the only weapon that remains for you is to move closer to him."

Edri to be buried today

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

Staff-Sgt. Sharon Edri, who was kidnapped and killed by Hamas terrorists and whose body was discovered Thursday, is to be buried in a full military ceremony today near his Moshav Zanoah home in the Judean Hills.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is reportedly cutting short his European visit to attend the funeral, to be held at 1 p.m. at the Beit Shemesh Cemetery.

Edri's body was found Thursday morning buried in an olive grove in the West Bank village of Tzurif, just 10 kilometers from Zanoah. But early Friday, IDF troops, acting on information obtained by the General Security Service, returned to the grove and searching elsewhere discovered additional body parts and personal effects, the IDF Spokesman said.

The information apparently came from the interrogation of the two Hamas terror cell members who are being held by the Palestinian Authority. The information was then relayed to the



Sharon Edri

Israelis. The two terrorists being held by the Palestinians were not brought to Tzurif as was originally reported.

Edri's military ID tag was found in the second dig and OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan and OC Manpower Maj.-Gen. Gideon Sheffer brought it to his family on Friday, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, who has maintained periodic

contact with the Edri family, also visited them on Friday.

Later Friday, IDF troops who came to Tzurif to weld shut the homes of three of the suspected Hamas terrorists were met with a hail of stones by residents defying the curfew. The troops responded with tear gas and rubber bullets.

The clashes erupted when soldiers gave the families of three of the six-member Hamas cell orders signed by Dayan. The soldiers sealed the homes and told them they would be destroyed within 48 hours. The delay was given so the families could appeal the orders with the High Court of Justice.

Hundreds of residents watched as the family members of Ibrahim Ranimat, Gamal Alhour, and Abdel Ranimat, the alleged ringleader, were ordered from their homes and removed their belongings.

"I am proud that my son is a fighter for his country and for God," Sara Qadi, a mother of one of the suspected terrorists told Reuters. "We will build a bigger and better house."



Avnery faints at protest

Long-time peace campaigner Uri Avnery, 74, receives medical attention after fainting yesterday at a joint Israeli-Palestinian protest on Jerusalem's Har Homa, attended by writers and artists. He was taken to Hadassah-University Hospital on Mt. Scopus. (Reuters)

US plans next moves

By HILLEL KUTTLER
and JON IMMANUEL

WASHINGTON - Palestinian negotiators on Friday wrapped up two days of meetings here with the Clinton administration on rekindling peace talks with Israel, in the process pledging that the Palestinian Authority is committed to fighting terrorism.

State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said afterward that early this week, the administration could conclude a plan of action on what to do next. Israeli embassy officials believe that US special Middle East coordinator Dennis Ross will visit the region later in the week and that Secretary of State Madeleine Albright may not be far behind.

Albright received "very clear, very specific assurances from the delegation that the Palestinians remain fundamentally committed to thwarting terrorism," Burns said, adding that joint Israeli-Palestinian efforts against Hamas cells recently indicate a "re-emergence of security coopera-

tion between the two, and that is quite positive."

Palestinian officials in Washington said that the talks held by Saeb Erekat and Mahmoud Abbas on Thursday and Friday with Albright and Ross could best be called consultations, not negotiations.

Nabil Abu Rudeineh, adviser to PA Chairman Yasser Arafat, said that the PA insisted on defending the peace process also against an Israeli government which it believed undermined it. Talks in Washington with US officials and in Gaza with the Dutch foreign minister had not produced any change in the current impasse.

"The Americans don't know what to do. They are still looking for a way to put together a draft. The Europeans are coordinating with the Americans," Abu Rudeineh said. He added that whatever plan the Americans come up with must include an end to construction on Har Homa. "If we accept construction there it means Oslo is over. It means the basis of this agreement has been changed."

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WORLD

in brief

US Air Force stumped by missing jet

WASHINGTON (AP) — The pilot of a missing A-10 warplane was in full control of his bomb-laden jet as it disappeared into the Rockies on an unexplained journey, a US Air Force general said. Despite a nine-day search for Capt. Craig Button and his Thunderbolt, Air Force officials said Friday they were at a loss to explain the pilot's actions. His jet broke away from a formation during an exercise over Arizona and flew toward Colorado. Some 185 flights by dozens of aircraft ranging from U-2 spy planes to Army helicopters have searched for the 32-year-old pilot and his plane. Even satellites have been used, but nothing has turned up. A senior Air Force official said Button may have deliberately flown his jet into the Rockies. The official said Button was despondent after his parents visited him in March, because his mother had adopted an anti-war religious faith.

Explosives found on pope's Bosnia route

SARAJEVO (AP) — Police stepped up security for the visit of Pope John Paul II to Bosnia. More than 11,000 police, backed by anti-sniper teams, explosives-sniffing dogs and helicopters are to provide security during the pope's 25-hour trip which began last night. Yesterday, police found and removed four explosive devices that looked like anti-tank mines under a bridge along the main route into the city the pope was to travel just hours later. The mines were believed to be devices left over from the 43-month Serb siege of Sarajevo.

UN bickers over Iraq haj plane

NEW YORK (Reuters) — The Security Council late Friday failed to agree on a statement about whether an Iraqi pilgrim flight to Saudi Arabia violated UN sanctions. US envoy Bill Richardson said that after hours of discussion the council would have to resume its talks again tomorrow. At issue is a flight last Wednesday from Baghdad to Jeddah taking 104 pilgrims on the annual Muslim haj. UN counsel Hans Corell told council members Gulf War resolutions barring Iraqi flights were not clear-cut, but Iraq did require permission for such flights. Some countries oppose too strong a statement on the issue and China opposes any rebuke to Iraq at all.

Turin shroud escapes flames

TURIN, Italy (Reuters) — The controversial shroud of Turin, revered by many Roman Catholics as Jesus' burial cloth, came close to being destroyed by fire yesterday.

Firemen braved searing heat to pluck the yellowing cloth, kept in a flat silver casket, from a devastating blaze that gutted part of this northern Italian city's cathedral, where the famous relic was housed.

"It's intact, it's a miracle," Turin's Cardinal Giovanni Saldarini said after the shroud was brought to safety in the early hours of yesterday.

But not everyone shared the Cardinal's joy. "It would have been better if the shroud had been burnt," said Vittorio Sgarbi, a high-profile Italian art historian and member of parliament. "There's never been any doubt that it is a fraud."

Millions of Catholics would dispute Sgarbi's assertion, despite carbon-dating tests in the 1980s which suggested the cloth only dated back to the 14th century.

Historically, the shroud can be traced no further than 1357 when crusaders were believed to have brought the 4.4 meter by 1.4 meter cloth to France from the Middle East.

The shroud, which has been in Turin since 1694, gained fame at the end of last century when a photographic negative revealed the ghostly image of a man invisible to the naked eye. Doctors who have examined the cloth say they are convinced it once held a corpse of a man who died from crucifixion. However speculation that the man was Jesus took a severe knock in 1988 when laboratories in England, the US and Switzerland



Fireman Mario Trematore carries the box containing the Turin shroud from the city's burning cathedral yesterday. (AP)

showed with a 95 percent certainty that the cloth dated from between 1260 to 1390.

Many historians support the theo-

ry that the image was formed by the body of a dying medieval crusader, tortured and crucified by the Saracens. But Turin professors

Nello Balossino and Pierluigi Baima Bollone said last year their research identified the faint image of an ancient Roman coin near the

left eye on the cloth, evidence, the professors said, that the shroud is not medieval but existed about the time of Jesus' death.

Scuffles near Downing Street

LONDON (Reuters) — British police scuffled with environmental activists near Prime Minister John Major's Downing Street residence after a march through London calling for social justice march turned violent yesterday.

Some 500 people among the 5,000 marchers threw planks of wood, bottles and other missiles over the gates into the Downing Street compound and then started throwing paint over police.

Police got out their riot helmets and called in mounted reinforcements as they tried to contain the protest.

The environmental activists, who have used surprise tactics to oppose new road-building and the use of cars, had joined in a march by dockers from the port of Liverpool sacked in an industrial dispute.

The activists had warned they planned a "spectacular event" during the march and police had been on alert for trouble.

The march was aimed at highlighting attacks on living standards. Groups of unemployed, disabled and asylum seekers were also taking part.

EU isolates Iran after trial

DUBAI (AP) — Iran's ambassador to Germany arrived home yesterday after a Berlin court's ruling blaming Iranian leaders for the murder of exiled dissidents plunged Tehran into its worst diplomatic crisis since 1989.

State-run Tehran radio said the envoy, Hossein Mousavian, arrived in the Iranian capital Tehran for "consultations."

All 15 European Union nations except Greece recalled their ambassadors from Tehran, as did Canada, after a German court Thursday found four men guilty of the 1992 slayings of Iranian Kurdish dissidents in Berlin. It said Iran's top leadership ordered the assassinations.

Tehran also ordered four German diplomats to leave, responding in kind to a similar German move against Iran.

Tehran newspapers made no mention of the court's condemnation of Iran's top leaders. The news was reported in full only in less-widely read English-language papers.

The official Islamic Republic News Agency said demonstrators would converge at the German Embassy in Tehran today. On Friday, thousands chanted slogans against Germany and burned US and Israeli flags in a march at the embassy.

The demonstrators implied they would overrun the embassy unless Germany apologized to the Iranian government by tomorrow.

The Tehran protests are a rerun of daily state-run rallies in November, when the Berlin court first implicated Iran's supreme

leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, and President Hashemi Rafsanjani in the 1992 murders. Protesters then pelted the embassy with rotten tomatoes.

In its final verdict Thursday, the Berlin court said the orders came from Iran's top leaders, but did not name them.

It found Kazem Darabi, an Iranian who worked as a grocer in Berlin, and a Lebanese man, Abbas Rhyael, guilty of the 1992 killing of Iranian Kurdish leader Sadiq Sharafkandi and three colleagues in the Mykonos restaurant in Berlin.

Both men were sentenced to life in prison. Two other Lebanese — Youssef Amin and Mohamed Aris — were convicted of being accessories to murder and given jail terms of 11 years and five years and three months respectively.

A fifth defendant, Lebanese Atallah Ayad, was acquitted. In a speech at Tehran University Friday, Rafsanjani said the EU action was a "passing storm" similar to the action taken by the Europeans in 1989, when Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini called on Muslims to kill British author Salman Rushdie. Rafsanjani noted Friday that after a few months of protests over the Rushdie affair EU nations returned to business as usual with Iran.

The current crisis is Iran's worst diplomatic fix since then. After the verdict, Iranian dissidents in Europe and some German lawmakers called for action against Iran, including freezing Iranian credits, an action which would stifle Iranian imports and shake the foundations

of Iran's rickety economy. Meanwhile in Iran, Tehran radio filled breaks between its regular programs yesterday with quotes from Rafsanjani's speech, in which he accused the United States and Israel of influencing the trial.

Iran opposition welcomes verdict

By ELDAD BECK

PARIS — A Paris-based Iranian opposition organization, the Iranian Crisis Cabinet in Exile, called yesterday upon the international community to create a court of justice that will be charged with prosecuting Iran's leaders for crimes against humanity.

The opposition group believes that last week's German court sentence condemning top Iranian officials for their involvement in assassinating Iranian dissident leaders abroad could constitute the beginning of an international judicial process that will target leaders of the state.

In a statement released yesterday in Paris, the group's chairman, Hassan Aghilipour, said the international community should create an informal body to investigate crimes against humanity committed on Iranian soil as well as cases of political assassination by Iranian agents abroad.

Aghilipour said the recall of EU ambassadors "constitutes new hope for the oppressed Iranian people."

PM

Continued from Page 1

National unity is a facade, a sure recipe for a government of shame. Responsible government under Netanyahu is a contradiction in terms."

Barak said that he is sure "19 out of every 20 Labor members are dead set against national unity."

MK Avraham Shohat, a leading Barak supporter, said "no move whatever is possible until the Bar-On Affair is finally over for good. We don't know when that will be and it is unlikely that this government will escape unscathed, even if there are no indictments."

Barak's chief opponent in the race for Labor chairman, MK Yossi Beilin, also opposes national unity, saying that "instead of national unity, we will get national paralysis."

But from Sao Paulo, Brazil, where he is vacationing, Peres sounded upbeat about his ability to bring his party to approve national unity.

Peres noted in radio interviews that "an official invitation still has not come from Netanyahu and nothing can begin until he makes his decision. We cannot initiate this."

He dismissed the notion of Arafat playing both ends of the government against each other. "There will not be two governments, but one, which will operate on the basis of new, agreed-on guidelines, not the guidelines of the present government."

Peres expressed confidence that "there is a majority in Labor for joining a national unity government, just as there is a large solid majority for such a government in the general public."

Sources close to Peres hinted he might consider entering the government on his own — as Moshe Dayan entered the Begin government in 1977 — if Labor refuses to join. They intimated that such an offer had been made by Netanyahu, who is very interested in having Peres in the government to provide it with the same legitimacy abroad as Dayan gave Begin.

Inside the Likud, tension mounted again with the resumed unity speculation. Likud partner Tsomet announced yesterday it was against a national unity government.

Deputy Education Minister Moshe Peled (NRP) said Netanyahu cannot achieve a national unity coalition, because he will be unable to keep the entire Likud-Tsomet-Gesher faction with him and he cannot remain a minority within his own coalition. The NRP has also come out unequivocally against national unity.

Jon Immanuel adds:

Concerning a national unity government in Israel, Arafat adviser Nabil Abu Rudeineh said: "Speaking for myself, I support it. At least it means there would be people in the government who know Oslo, who worked for the

peace agreement from the beginning."

He said that in that context the PA might not oppose the six-month final-status plan proposed by Netanyahu, "if it runs parallel with Oslo and if there are guarantees" to prevent the six-month plan from hitting a dead end, with no alternative.

GUESSING

Continued from Page 1

sure to make further concessions to Arafat. These might be politically impossible given his present coalition. The one way he can soften some of the vehement opposition he faces from the Right is to menacingly raise the national unity stick. On the other hand, some in Labor might have a more difficult time attacking him if the national unity carrot is temptingly dangled before them.

It is significant that, though Netanyahu spoke of consultations on the issue, last night no one in the Likud could point to any real consultation he has held with anyone on national unity.

The betting in the Likud is that he has not been grappling with the question, earnestly polling his ministers, or losing sleep over national unity. But it doesn't hurt to say that he has. For now, it's best for him to keep everyone else guessing and maybe losing some sleep.

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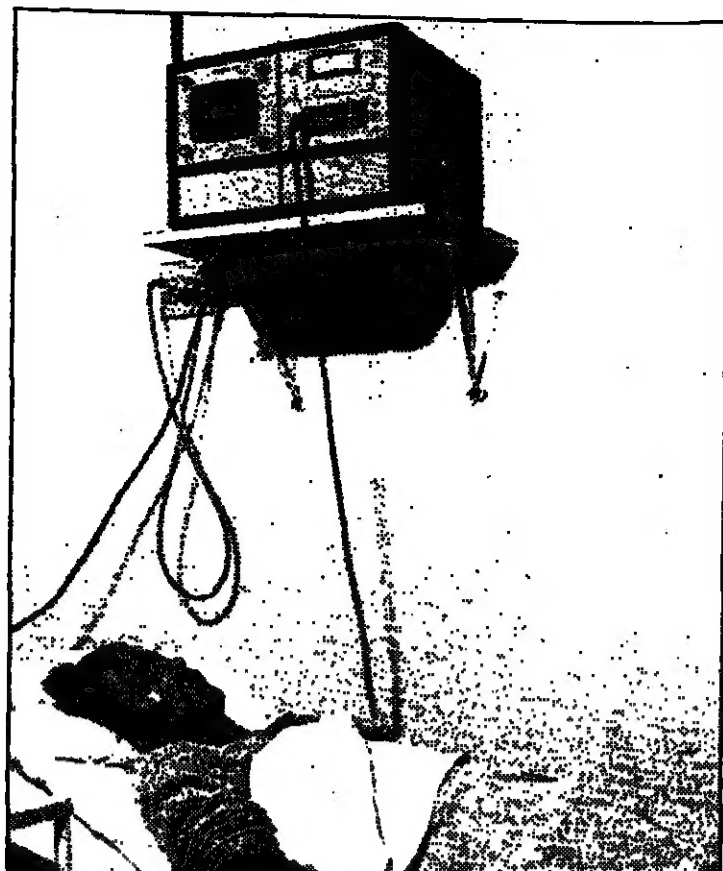
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The risk of blood clots following 'balloon therapy' can be dramatically reduced by the new drug ReoPro.

Costly new heart drug

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

When a helpful, expensive new drug is approved by the Health Ministry for use in hospitals, the battle has merely begun. Pharmaceutical companies and distributors launch a campaign to promote its use. Public relations staffers try to persuade journalists of the great advances it offers. Hospitals issue press releases boasting that they are supplying it to patients. And Treasury bureaucrats hold their heads as if they had an attack of migraine coming on, for they know that adding it to the basket of health services will cost the public purse money.

This has happened with ReoPro, which many cardiologists regard as a "revolutionary" drug for the treatment of certain heart patients. Developed over a decade by the Dutch company Centocor, which sold the rights to the US pharmaceutical giant Eli Lilly, ReoPro costs \$1,400 per dose — sending especially powerful shivers down the spines of government bureaucrats.

"We're giving it to 10-15 patients a month — the oldest is 86 — and are very satisfied with the results," says Dr. Shmuel Banai, a senior cardiologist at Jerusalem's Bikur Holim Hospital and head of its catheterization unit. Banai says his hospital's management is so enthusiastic about ReoPro and its benefits to patients that it has not put a limit on its use by its cardiologists; he says that in many other hospitals, there are strict limitations and, in some, even quotas restricting use of the expensive drug.

It is meant specifically for patients who have just had or will undergo percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (PTCA), also known as balloon therapy for coronary arteries. This treatment, in which a catheter tipped with a deflated balloon is threaded through a blood vessel in the groin into the heart, compresses the fatty plaques lining the coronary arteries of heart patients to improve blood flow to the heart muscle. But sometimes a thrombus (clot) forms before or after angioplasty, which can be risky. "The thrombus is comprised of platelet aggregation," Banai explains.

"Each platelet has 40,000 receptors for glycoprotein IIb/IIIa. The movement of the catheter through the narrow blood vessel can cause the inner layer to be 'wounded.' The platelets, which ordinarily serve a positive function in preventing hemorrhage from a wound, are activated, forming a net of fibrinogen and themselves causing a blockage in the coronary arteries.

ReoPro, says Banai, almost immediately de-activates these receptors and prevents platelets from aggregating. And this can last for a month. "It's much more effective than heparin, the cheap, long-used drug prescribed for thinning the blood, or aspirin. We find ReoPro significantly reduces the risk of hemorrhaging that can be posed by heparin. With ReoPro, which we started using last July, we often see a thrombus dissolve in front of our eyes."

But while cardiologists departments around the country have begun to administer the precious drug when faced with a clot, Bikur Holim doctors will give it (by injection or infusion) to a high-risk patient even before they identify a clot. "We are fortunate that our medical director Prof. Shlomo Stern [who also is chief of cardiology] recognizes the drug's benefits and does not put economic limitations on us regarding ReoPro," Banai maintains.

"We used it on two patients just this morning: one of them was a 42-year-old man who came in yesterday and is already going home today. The results were so positive in a number of foreign studies that clinical trials were halted because doc-

tors felt that, for ethical reasons, they couldn't deprive the control group of the drug. ReoPro cuts in half the 1 to 3 percent risk of a coronary infarction and death as a result of angioplasty."

Although the drug is literally worth its weight in gold, Banai says that using ReoPro can actually save the hospital money in the long term. "If the right patient gets it, he can be saved from a repeat angioplasty, frequent clinic visits and invasive tests," he says.

Although the genetically engineered drug is indicated for the prevention of ischemic cardiac complications in high-risk patients undergoing angioplasty, there are reports that it can be effective in heart patients with unstable angina pectoris (chest pain) and even those suffering a myocardial infarction.

RUTI AMRANI, a representative of Lilly-Israel which imports the drug, confirms that Bikur Holim — although one of the smallest hospitals — is her company's best customer, followed by Rambam Hospital in Haifa and Sheba at Tel Hashomer. "Big guns" like Hadassah-University Hospital and Shaare Zedek Hospital in Jerusalem and the Rabin Medical Center in Petah Tikva use ReoPro much more sparingly. "In the US, it has been shown that using the drug on the right patients actually saves hospitals money — about \$4,000 or \$5,000 per patient. We have hired a medical economist to study the Israeli situation and show whether broader use of ReoPro would have economic benefits, besides the medical ones," says Amrani. Because of severe hospital deficits, some medical administrators set limits on how many patients can get ReoPro, the company representative claimed.

Prof. Mervyn Gotsman, chief of cardiology at Hadassah-University Hospital, Eln Kerem, denies that any of his patients who really need it are being deprived of ReoPro due to economic considerations. "It is a revolutionary drug in the way it paralyzes the platelets," Gotsman says. "We may have a somewhat stricter definition of the medical indications for which it's used, but no Hadassah patient has been deprived of it for economic reasons."

In general, Gotsman calls on the Health Ministry to change its reimbursement policy, so that instead of hospitals being paid for treating each heart patient — no matter what he undergoes — separate categories be established to reflect the varied costs of treatment. "There should be one category for patients getting one balloon, another for two, still another for those in whom we implant a supportive stent, and a fourth for the most complex cases, including those requiring ReoPro."

Gotsman's counterpart at Shaare Zedek, Prof. Dan Tzivoni, speaks out against hasty adoption of drugs for indications for which they have not been clearly proven effective. "In a department like ours, with a much higher volume of patients than Bikur Holim, it isn't justified to use ReoPro on more than the two to five patients we do treat with it in an average month." If a dose cost \$14 instead of \$1,400, Tzivoni asserts that he might use it "a bit more frequently. It's an effective drug; I wouldn't call it revolutionary. But I hope it will be unequivocally proven effective for other conditions beyond the narrow ones for which it's now indicated."

But Tzivoni continues that "there have been a number of other cardiac drugs about which doctors were very enthusiastic — even more than about ReoPro — and a year or two later they have dropped out of use. We must be very careful, as there are all kinds of non-medical pressures pushing for the use of new drugs."

Rx FOR READERS

Skin lesions: No one 'right' answer

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

My friend's dermatologist told her to have a brown beauty mark removed from her face, rather than having it regularly checked to be sure it hasn't changed. My son has several brown marks like these on his body, which he regularly has checked by Hadassah-University Hospital dermatologists. He was told there that unless there is a change in their appearance, there is no need to remove them. Which approach is preferable? I.B., Jerusalem.

Dr. David Friedman, a dermatologist who heads the Lase-Ohr Dermatology-Cosmetic Laser Institute, in Jerusalem, replies:

There isn't one "right" answer when it comes to skin lesions. What policy is followed depends not only on the specific lesion, but also on the location, family history, the personality of the patient and even that of the dermatologist as well.

The expression "beauty mark" is not a scientific term, but it most often refers to a mole. If a young model has a mole on her cheek, most doctors would recommend removing it. If a patient has numerous dysplastic nevi — moles that are almost always benign — these lesions themselves may not be dangerous, but

they carry with them a higher risk of melanoma.

If an elderly man has a mole on his back, it would be better to remove it, as the location would make it difficult for him to notice any changes in the lesion and any small disfigurement due to surgery would not be important. The same lesion on one's hand could be left untouched because changes would be much easier for the patient to monitor.

Some patients are so anxious about any lesion that in their case, it would be better to remove it; others can't be relied upon to come in every six months to have the mole checked, so under such circumstances, the doctor may recommend removing it.

The opposite policy may be better for highly responsible individuals who have no trouble coming in for a periodic examination. What to do may also depend on the dermatologist himself, who may be more surgically oriented — or more fearful of lawsuits.

The sun is needed for the production of vitamin D. Does the use of sunscreens prevent this from happening? C.J., Rehovot.

Dr. Friedman answers this one as well: Sunscreen filters out not only the ultra-

violet rays, but also those beneficial ones that stimulate the production of vitamin D in the skin. The average person, especially in Israel, gets enough vitamin D from his diet and some sun. So using sunscreen should not cause any significant vitamin D deficit. Older persons who may need more vitamin D due to bone problems may be compromised by sunscreen, so I recommend that such individuals drink a glass of low-fat milk (which is rich in vitamin D) to compensate.

I am a man in my 40s who has had two inguinal hernia operations. My doctor now says I should be careful not to pick up heavy objects, to avoid an abdominal hernia. Are there any exercises one can do to strengthen the abdominal muscles and reduce the risk of hernias in people prone to them? A.R., Kiryat Motzkin.

Prof. Zvi Ginnon, a senior physician in the general surgery department at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem, replies:

There is a strong congenital or hereditary factor in inguinal hernias, so if the muscles involved in them are weak, there isn't anything that insures against a recurrence. However, there is no direct connection between inguinal and abdominal hernias, thus it was an error to link the two. A

tear in abdominal tissues is most often due to trauma or past surgery, not a familial tendency.

While we don't know of exercise that can prevent hernias, you can improve your fitness and strengthen your peritoneal muscles by swimming as often as possible, but don't start before three months have passed since your last operation.

Dr. Na'ama Constantini, a family physician and sports medicine expert at the Wingate Institute for Physical Education in Netanya, adds:

To strengthen the lower and upper abdomen, you can do partial sit-ups: lie on your back and raise your legs one at a time or move them side to side. But it's important to do this gradually and not overextend yourself.

Rx For Readers welcomes queries from readers about medical problems. Experts will answer those we find most interesting, and replies will be printed in the twice-monthly column on the Health Page. Write Rx For Readers, The Jerusalem Post, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000, fax it to 02-538-9527 or e-mail it to jusie@jpost.co.il, giving your initials, age and place of residence. Phoned-in queries will not be accepted.

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Telephone 02-531-5666, Fax 02-538-9527, CIRCULATION - 02-531-5610, Fax 02-538-9017, ADVERTISING - 02-531-5608,
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Cloud over Hong Kong

China has reacted with fury to the resolution submitted to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights - a resolution notable only for its fawning mildness - and said it will fail as it has every year for the past six years. The massive pressures China exerts to ensure such failure is hardly something any country should be proud of.

It becomes a different story, of course, when pressures for change are exerted on Beijing. It responds with threats and warnings of economic sanctions, as it did against Denmark last week for daring to stand its ground on a timid European Union refusal to censure China's human rights scandals.

The looming crisis facing civil libertarians in Hong Kong is further indication that it is vital to maintain pressure on China to conform to international norms of behavior - and the UN Charter which it signed. The US administration is to be commended for doing its bit to keep the human rights issue under the international spotlight. This week both President Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright will meet with Martin Lee, the leader of Hong Kong's democracy movement, who is heading to the United States on a lobbying and fund-raising mission.

China regards every effort to protect those persecuted by its repressive state machinery as meddling in its internal affairs. No state has ever said it actually likes UN censure or Amnesty International criticism, but some at least have the grace to act ashamed of their abuses and attempt to rectify them.

What is worrying about China's attitude to the impending return of Hong Kong is its apparent disregard for world opinion, which fears that a country which has achieved and become used to a huge measure of civil liberty and democracy under British rule, may simply lose it come July 1. International observers have a right to be worried. There are not so many free and democratic nations in the world that we can afford to watch a city-state of 6.5 million people have their rights curbed by a new government of autocrats scared of democracy.

The Chinese government made it clear earlier this year that it intends to scrap or amend Hong Kong's existing laws protecting freedoms and political rights. The colony's future legislature fired more shots over the border from Shenzhen yesterday by agreeing on the means to pass laws for Hong Kong, in line with Beijing's plans to roll up civil liberties after Britain departs. Beijing intends to install this interim chamber it has concocted in place of the present elected legislature.

As of July 1, for example, the citizens of Hong Kong will need Chinese police permission to hold political demonstrations - a long way from the present procedure of merely informing the police in advance. Hong Kong's new leader designate, Tung Chee-hwa, last week unveiled plans to quash any protests and to curb funding for political groups in the territory.

As Hong Kong's democratic watchdogs point

out, there is a certain arrogance and cheek in Beijing allowing the provisional legislature to start passing laws for the territory two months in advance of the handover from Britain. China said the chamber is merely passing laws which are "absolutely essential" to have in place before July 1 to avoid a legal vacuum. How odd that the most essential matters concerning this historic ending of 250 years of British rule would appear to be concerned with cracking down on British-style liberties.

The meekly worded UN Rights motion China has become so worked up about merely "expresses concern" over reports of dissident persecution and the harsh sentences imposed on Chinese who have dared to try exercising freedom of assembly, association, or religion. It also urges China to release political prisoners. Unfortunately, on past record we can expect China to raise rather than lower its roll call of political prisoners - and even more unfortunately, some of them are likely to come from Hong Kong next year. Regarding the UN motion, China's only real concern is to ensure it is never adopted. Over past years, it has made false promises to improve matters while at the same time saying the issue is internal and no one's business. Persistent critics are then subjected to threats of economic and political reprisals.

For all its tiger economy chatter and glowing propaganda, China is still a nasty place to live. If things have improved from the scandalous and cynical Maoist famines and cultural revolutions of the 1950s and 1960s, it should be remembered that life could scarcely have become more brutish and medieval. China is still ruled by a clique of secretive, narrow-minded, and xenophobic power-grabbers. The government actually objected to cracking down on state-owned copyright thieves and pirates until Washington threatened severe economic sanctions - an indication of the morality levels at the top. Vice President Ai Gore's distaste at having to clink glasses with the butchers of Tiananmen Square on his recent visit was both clear and understandable.

If the Chinese rulers' ill treatment of their own people were not bad enough, friends of Hong Kong would do well to be alarmed at the human rights scandals in Tibet since it was "reabsorbed." Tibet is also officially designated an "autonomous region" - a typically Orwellian misnomer. Last year over 200 people were arrested in a three-month period for being involved in peaceful pro-independence demonstrations. Monks and nuns were arrested as Chinese troops mauled monasteries and convents and hundreds of prisoners of conscience continue to be detained.

Hong Kong democrats are unlikely to demonstrate for independence, but in China demonstrating for justice and free speech can be just as dangerous. Hong Kong's people deserve special vigilance from the rest of the world to impress firmly on China that a free people cannot be sold into repression. It is not an internal affair. It is a matter of universal human rights and dignity.



Dump the substandard

The political leadership of Israel, irrespective of party affiliation, has failed miserably in the execution of its duty to the nation.

The Labor-led Left is guilty of failure through ill-considered action; the Likud-led Right of failure through ineffectual inaction.

In this way, victims of the gross ineptitude of their leaders, the people of this tortured land find themselves locked into a situation that threatens the most fundamental values of their society.

However, unlike their counterparts in dictatorships, they cannot lay the blame for their fate, or that of their children, at the doorstep of some omnipotent despot. In the final analysis, they alone are responsible for determining their destiny.

In confronting his predicament, the Israeli citizen as voter, has much of value to learn from his experience as consumer.

By refusing to accept substandard goods and services, he has imposed radical transformation on consumerism in this country. Perceptibly, the shoddy and shabby are being replaced by the reliable and elegant. The inefficient supplier and the impolite vendor are becoming increasing rare.

This is an important lesson for the citizen as a consumer of political goods and services.

For it is clear that the present echelon of political leaders has proven incapable of providing an acceptable standard of performance. They have led, or rather, misled, the nation into a deadly political impasse. For this they must be penalized.

This penalty can be no less than the loss of their elected office, which they have proved unworthy of retaining.

Almost paradoxically, nothing bears more damning testimony to the abject incompetence of the country's political elite than the recent signs of bipartisan consensus over the prime minister's latest proposal: "short-circuiting" the interim stages of the Oslo process, and immediate com-

MARTIN SHERMAN

menagement of negotiations for the final status settlement with Palestinians.

Labor's endorsement of the idea constitutes tacit, but unequivocal admission that the "peace process" which it initiated with such great pomp and ceremony has fizzled out.

Approval of the Netanyahu initiative to discard the provisions

The Israeli citizen as voter can learn much from his experience as consumer

stipulated by the Oslo accord by none other its principal architects, Shimon Peres and Yossi Beilin, makes the impracticality of its implementation undeniably apparent.

However, this implicit acknowledgement of the collapse of the process by the very men who conceived it serves only to underscore the impotence of the Likud in its feeble efforts to resist it.

For the Likud not only failed miserably in rallying popular opposition to Oslo - a policy manifestly incompatible with the nation's security and well-being - it also appeared sadly ineffectual and inarticulate in charting any alternative course.

THE growing realization of the failure of the "peace process" has not been induced by any powers of persuasion shown by the leadership of the "national camp." Rather, it has been the result of the growing discrepancy between fanciful forecasts and grisly realities of the inevitable - and hence predictable - clash between seductive fantasy and sobering fact.

However, in spite of its obvious merits from Israel's point of view,

the Netanyahu proposal has precious little chance of success.

The very reasons for which the Israeli side now wishes to bypass the interim phases of the Oslo agreements are precisely the reasons the Palestinian side will wish to insist on them.

For while the former now realizes that the rules must be changed in order to prevent withdrawal to borders that are in its view unacceptable, the latter realizes that they must be preserved, in order to ensure withdrawal to borders that are in its view acceptable.

The unresolvable bargaining structure has been set; further deadlock and dissent are guaranteed.

The choice now confronted is thus a daunting one: To either continue with a process that will expose the country to severe - indeed unacceptable - threats; or to renege on contractual commitments and risk damaging international censure, even "pariah-state" isolation.

This failure so needless and of such magnitude that it can be neither overlooked nor condoned by the citizens of a democratic polity.

But for Israel the mere replacement of the current political elite in future polls will not suffice.

It is far more important for the Israeli public to make clear that it expects - indeed, demands - a set of new standards from the next generation of leaders: more clarity and coherence in the definition of the national interest; greater prudence and perseverance in its pursuit; greater intellectual depth, foresight and integrity; a firmer commitment to principles.

Unless the voter makes it clear that he will no longer tolerate the foolhardy, the feeble, or the fanciful at the helm of the nation, he will do nothing to extricate himself from the dire perils to which such men have exposed him.

In the final analysis, he alone is responsible for determining his destiny.

The writer is a political science lecturer at Tel Aviv University.

Smoke signals

RUTHIE BLUM

THERE is no activity quite so rigorous as abstinence. This is kind of funny when you think about it, since the word has serene, almost passive, connotations.

Monks abstain. Parliamentarians abstain. But just you try doing it sometime - and you'll realize how entirely it exhausts, how totally it consumes you.

I have never felt so completely defined by anything as by my abstinence from cigarettes, which began two endless months ago.

"Hi, I haven't had a cigarette in 56 days!" I want to shout it from the rooftops, but settle for any passerby who gives so much as a glance in my direction.

As if anyone really gave a fig. This is also kind of funny when you think about it, because when you were there, puffing away at one cigarette, after another, the entire world seemed to care very, very much. And not just because you were fouling up their air. Because they cared about you.

Yet when you began to abstain, all these well-wishing, earnest anti-smokers faded away into thin (clean) air.

It was then that the smokers began to emerge from the woodwork.

It used to seem that fewer and fewer people were smoking. In fact, with strict anti-smoking legislation being enacted - and even occasionally enforced - it was becoming a downright nuisance to be a smoker.

Good, you told yourself. At least now I'll be joining the rest of the herd. I'll even be able to eat in vegetarian restaurants.

But no sooner did you extinguish your final cigarette than you discovered everybody around you smoked. Even people you thought didn't. Even people you recall having chided you

Abstinence makes the heart grow fonder - of the thing you gave up

about smelling like an ashtray. Even your gynecologist and your rabbi.

(And, truth be told, did you really want to eat in vegetarian restaurants?)

To make matters worse, your very close friend - the one who quit smoking with you - resumed indulgence, this time, however, exercising extreme moderation: a mere two cigarettes a day.

THIS kind of abstinence is beyond your comprehension.

"She won't be able to keep that up!" you comforted yourself complacently, feeling gaily mean while for not wishing her success in her efforts. She was, after all, your very close friend.

But the deep dark secret is that addicts actually have only one true friend: their addiction. Which is why I quit smoking in the first place.

Watching a late-night TV broadcast about women so hooked on drugs and alcohol that they couldn't even abstain during pregnancy, I was filled with shame. I knew what they were talking about.

Addiction is a tyrant. And when you've got one controlling you, you're far more likely to worry about having anybody see you endangering the health of your unborn child than about actually doing it.

And addicts are sneaky. We lie to ourselves, though mostly to others, about the degree of our addiction. (Emptying ashtrays every 20 minutes, for example, is a good way to avoid hearing onlookers gasp at the amount of tar and nicotine you inhale in any given hour.)

And addicts really only enjoy being around other addicts, or at least around those who don't pay attention to their addiction. One woman I know won't visit her parents during the winter because she doesn't want to have to freeze while she's smoking on the terrace because her parents won't let her smoke in the house.

What's a parent compared to a stick of tobacco?

The other deep dark secret is that abstinence doesn't make addicts feel better most of the time, even though we know intellectually that our bodies are better off.

Abstinence makes us feel lost and deprived, exposed to the internal distress that led to our dependency on the poison in the first place.

And abstinence is hard work. Anyone who claims otherwise is not an addict, a monk, or a parliamentarian.

The writer is a regular columnist for The Jerusalem Post.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"WELLINGTON'S VICTORY"

Sir, - In *Time Out* of March 28, under a famous painting of the Duke of Wellington, you ran the caption, "The Battle of Waterloo inspired Beethoven's Wellington's Victory." Beethoven wrote his *Battle Symphony*, known by the music world as *Wellington's Victory*, during a sojourn in Baden in late 1813. The premiere took place in Vienna on December 8, 1813. The *Battle of Waterloo* took place in 1815.

It was Wellington's victory at Vittoria, Spain, on June 21, 1813 that inspired Beethoven.

AVISHAI MORDECHAI Neot Mordechai.

COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE

Sir, - Those faint-hearted Israelis advocating an immediate cessation of the Har Homa project in deference to Palestinian "sensitivities" must be made aware of the fact that this would signal a total abdication of a sovereign nation's control of its destiny and future.

Arafat's use of the terror option (with self-fulfilling prophecies of violence) is a cynical exploitation of Israelis' strong yearning for peace. However, to bow to blackmail has always been counter-productive and will only embolden the blackmailer to raise the ante.

FAY DICKER Brooklyn, N.Y.

RACISM IN ISRAEL

Sir, - I was disgusted to read about the racial slurs and bad treatment meted out to an Ethiopian soldier in the IDF. All those involved should apologize publicly. I did not come to Israel to live among racists, and Jews should be the last people on this earth to act so badly.

MIRIAM WOLFF Kfar Daniel.

DESPICABLE

Sir, - It is despicable enough that terrorists are willing to blow themselves up in order to attack our soldiers. It is even more despicable that they are willing to blow themselves up in a public area in order to kill and maim innocent men, women and children. But when they purposely attack innocent grade-school children whose only crime is being Israeli and who have no connection with the policies of either the Israeli government or the Palestinian leadership, then they have gone too far and crossed a red line.

Attacking innocent children cannot be justified for any reason. It shows that these terrorists will stop at nothing to achieve their goals. They and their like must be wiped out before more attacks can be perpetrated.

If Arafat cannot condemn these acts of terror in the strongest possible terms, and if he cannot find the will or way to take action against terrorists, then he too must suffer the consequences of his terrorist mentality.

The international community must do whatever is necessary to eradicate Arafat and his henchmen. It is time for the governments of Britain, France, the US and others to stop whitewashing the activities of the Palestinians and be honest with themselves and recognize terror and its sources.

AVRAHAM YOM-TOV Moshav Katif.

LIFE IN THE NEGEV

Sir, - Sue Fishkoff's article of March 30 on the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies at Kibbutz Ketura was excellent. But we would ask that you not give the Negev so much favorable attention.

The Negev has had more than its share of difficulties, mostly as a result of perverse policies from Jerusalem and Tel Aviv in the area of the environment, industry and land use. Despite this, there are a growing number of bright spots in addition to the Arava Institute: the university and hospital in Beersheba are having a major positive impact; a new industrial park at Omer is a small but important first step in transforming our economic base; and our new towns

are on a par with the best in the center of the country.

But if you now begin to report on these successes, our negative image will be destroyed. We will then be swamped by citizens realizing that there is a better lifestyle available in Israel, which does not require living on top of one another, building islands in the Mediterranean, destroying coastal sand dunes and leveling hillsides.

Please help us keep the good life in the Negev our well-kept secret.

PROF. HARVEY LITWICK Negev Center for Regional Development, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev Beersheba.

WRONG NAME

Sir, - Upon opening *The Jerusalem Post* of March 28, I was amused to find a photo of Judge Lance Ito in Jerusalem, and not Ito Kato, as your caption stated.

JOSHUA GITLITZ Arad.

PICTURE POSTSCRIPT



Dalton Campbell is the toast of Delphi, Indiana. Four-year-old Dalton walked more than a kilometer to seek help after he and his mother were in a serious car accident. He crawled out of the overturned car's shattered rear window and kept going until he found someone. Dalton's mother was hospitalized in serious condition, but was saved by her son's heroic determination; he suffered a head wound that required 24 stitches to close.

POSTSCRIPT

THIS WOMAN deserves a bouquet for her accomplishment, a brickbat for her subsequent sin, and another bouquet for refreshing candor and humility.

Briton Fiona Campbell became the first woman to walk around the world, but then it emerged she cheated by accepting rides across a 1,600-km stretch of the US after becoming pregnant.

Campbell, who finished her 31,337-km, 11-year slog across five continents in 1994, said she wants her name removed from the *Guinness Book of Records*.

"I shouldn't be remembered as the first woman to walk around the world when I cheated," Campbell, 29, said.

In her newly published autobiography, *The Whole Story*, she says shame made her dabble with drugs and she once considered suicide. "The truth is hard enough to live with but deceit is even harder," she wrote. "Once you've lied about your achievements, you've created a burden for yourself which you can never, never put down. My lie almost destroyed me."

While crossing the US in 1985, she got a ride on her support truck on the stretch from Indianapolis to Fort Sumner in New Mexico.

"I got into the back of the vehicle and drove ahead and didn't drive back to continue walking properly," she said, explaining she felt weakened after becoming pregnant by her back-up driver. She later had an abortion.

Cheering fans greeted her in October 1994 when she marched into John o'Groat's at the northern tip of Scotland at the end of her epic journey.

"They were walking beside me as a role model. They were respecting me. To them I owe the biggest apology," Campbell said.

More than a year later, she completed the walk from Indianapolis to Fort Sumner, alone and in secret.

ON CAMERA



A moment of quiet solitude: Imbuing a photograph with a certain mood can be a function of composition.

(David Brauner)

That underlying feeling

By DAVID BRAUNER

There are aesthetic emotions for which there are no corresponding thoughts, emotions that awaken the unconscious alone and that never touch the brain.

— Benjamin de Casseres, *The Unconscious in Art*, Camera Work, No. 36, 1911.

"I saw shapes related to each other, I saw a picture of shapes and underlying that, of the feeling I had about life. Here would be a picture based on related shapes and on the deepest human feeling, a step in my own evolution, a spontaneous discovery."

— Alfred Stieglitz, *Memoirs*.

Whatever it is called, "emo-

tion," "feeling," as in the above quotations or, in the modern expression, "mood," it is a vague, indefinable element of photography. It is that something that comes directly across from the picture to the viewer like a point-blank shot to the heart and soul.

The range of mood in photography runs the gamut from the dramatic to the tranquil to the humorous (the last, to be addressed in a separate article). Mood may be injected into a photograph in several ways.

The first comes under the heading of Life or, more specifically, the Human Condition. Sit down anywhere, in a park, a sidewalk cafe, or in the privacy of your own home. Let yourself blend into the background. It's actually very relaxing. Eventually, you'll begin to see the diverse moods in

the faces around you — happy and animated, somber and reflective, angry or contented.

Try your "people watching" the first time without a camera. You'll feel less self-conscious. Take the pictures in your mind as they come to you. When you do bring your camera, make sure it's set properly for the ambient conditions, then let it rest unobtrusively in your lap. Only bring the camera to your eye when the image you want begins to form. Hold your breath and release the shutter slowly. As Henri Cartier-Bresson wrote, it takes "a velvet hand and a hawk's eye — these we should all have..."

In some rare and wonderful instances, to paraphrase '60s guru Marshall McLuhan, the image is the mood. In a serendipitous combination of subject matter, composition,

tonality and color, the whole picture evokes a single, forceful emotional response.

In the words of one photo critic, such a picture "...can be heard [his italics] as a high pitch or a very loud note against a general fabric of sound or gray tone" (Eric Johnson, *The Composer's Vision: Photographs by Ernest Bloch*, Aperture, No. 16, 1972).

These visual sounds may be a moment of quiet solitude, or an eternity of "howling in the wilderness." An image of wildly burning flames may be "heard" as mystical destruction, while reflections on a quiet pond may "sound" soothing and soporific.

Imbuing the whole photograph with a certain mood can be a function of composition. A single person, tree or building set against a barren background may draw out a feeling of insecurity or, on the contrary, self-reliance. Another way, juxtaposing opposites, often evokes a feeling of menace or fear. For example, the friction almost jumps off the emulsion in a photograph of a child holding her ears at the firing of an assault rifle, or an aerial shot of a comfortable home swept along in flood waters.

Unusual weather conditions

can superimpose a special mood on any scene. Fog, together with a strong foreground, lends an ethereal depth, almost an infinity, to a picture. In our region, sandstorms have the same effect, but remember to protect your camera against the dust by sealing it in a plastic bag with a hole for the lens.

Light mist turns colors into dreamlike pastel shades, and flattens the picture to give it an impressionistic, painterly look. In such situations, there is more light than there seems, so underexpose by one stop. Blurring motion, using a slow shutter speed, suggests frenetic dynamism.

Smearing a layer of petroleum jelly over the UV filter (never the lens itself) creates a sense of mystery. Tipping the camera to throw the horizon on a slope off-balances the image, and the inner ear of the viewer.

Finally, simple darkroom techniques can alter the mood of a photograph. Upping the paper contrast grade makes for darker, moodier skies and bleak silhouetted foregrounds.

Or, printing an ordinary portrait on soft paper can enhance the face with an all-pervading thoughtfulness, or sadness.

Not Page One

Har Homa: Wind and hot air

By Sam Orbaum



Wind. Wind, and if you're looking for anything else on Har Homa, that's it. There's nothing more because Har Homa has no legacy, no ghosts of history, no reason for anyone to care who claims it.

The Arabs never wanted it until the Jews did; the Jews now have to build on it — and the Arabs kill for it — because of political vanity, a principle for which innocent people have to die.

Har Homa. Until a short eon ago, folks living across the street had never heard of it. Now, it's a household name to three or four billion people, few of whom understand that the place isn't even worthy of mention on local maps.

Choose a rock and sit for a while, and imagine. Over there, perhaps, a gas station. Down there, Yitzhak's or Yossi's or Ya'acov's, a family grocery next to a kindergarten. Candy wrappers strewn from here to, say, over there, a good place for the community center, or synagogue. Will the main street run this way or that?

Will there be space among the dense concrete habitation for the

anybody's interested is because of the interest it has sparked. It's the latest round of that popular peace-process game, Pickax Polemics: the Israelis decide they want to dig something somewhere, and, stupidly, make a lot of noise about it. Then the Palestinian naysayer crew, right on schedule and speaking from a well-worn text, wait they are shocked and appalled and the Jews are stealing their land and this proves the Jews are not serious about peace and don't be surprised if the agonized Palestinians rise up to defend their sacred dust.

Then the Israeli Left gets hysterical about hypothetical moral rights, and the Israeli Right gets hysterical about hypothetical historic rights. Cars stop where no car ever had reason to stop and journalists get out and run to the battlefield and fail to notice there's nothing there.

No matter. Har Homa, Hebron, the Tunnel, the Efrat hills, Orient House — what's the difference? To the klatch of international policymakers, who like to think they can put their own spin on the Earth's axis, this is a chance to speak of grave concern and dismay about commit-

ment to the peace process. The friendliness of the Arab world state, as they have stated a hundred times before about every issue that has come up, that they cannot consider normalization with Israel until this provocation ends.

The Europeans, the Americans, the developed, underdeveloped, developing and undevelopable countries: "grave concern and dismay about blah blah blah." (Do I think that the whole world hates us? No. I just read the papers.)

But in Haifa and Beersheba and Tel Aviv, and even in nearby Gilo and Talpiot, people wonder: who cares? Is it a personal insult to every Palestinian if we do build on Har Homa, and is it a capitulation on United Jewish Jerusalem if we don't?

By now, yes, it is, because an issue has been fabricated, political lines have been drawn, emotional barricades erected and flags are affluter, over nothing more consequential than this rock we sit on.

This rock has been here since before 1967, before 1948, well before Moses or Abraham. Soon it will be trucked away to make way for a pizza joint, or a McDonald's.

The spectacular view it has enjoyed, if indeed rocks enjoy views, will be blocked in every direction by the current style of dense, soulless suburban development. Who knows? Maybe your next house will be built right here. Ramot, Ma'aleh Adumim, Gilo, Pisgat Ze'ev, Efrat — each has a house where there had been nothing but a rock like this one.

What makes Har Homa different from the Jerusalem suburbs already established is a profoundly changed political climate: then, settlement was a frantic effort to build facts on the ground in preparation for a possible territorial showdown; now, that showdown has begun, and it is too late. If Har Homa was to be settled, it had to happen 20 years ago.

If only Har Homa had been ignored, as it has been throughout history, it would still be of no importance to either side. The Israelis and the Palestinians would have gone on to build their fractious little nations without the help or hindrance of a neighborhood here. And given time, this wind would have eroded the hill to nothingness. And nobody would have noticed.

DEAR RUTHIE

Wonderful wife's weighty problem

By RUTHIE BLUM



Dear Ruthie, I've been married for six years to a wonderful woman. She has put on approximately 22 kg. since our wedding and chooses to do nothing about it.

I simply do not understand why she doesn't even take the time to walk a few times a week to get back into shape. I have stayed in shape through exercise and daily activity. Is it possible that she doesn't care about her appearance or her health? Help!

Troubled (by spouse's girth)
Somewhere in the USA
Dear Girth-Troubled,

It is unlikely that your wife is indifferent to her appearance — or to her health, for that matter. Gaining 22 kg. in a six-year period is a statement. Apparently, you are unsure

about the meaning of this particular statement. Whether your wife is aware of its meaning is something only she can say.

The fact that she "doesn't even take the time to get back into shape" only reconfirms that something is "eating" her, not just that she is overeating.

Overeating can be an outward expression of a feeling of internal emptiness and an attempt to "fill" this void.

It is also an expression of self-loathing, since it is always accompanied by disgust with oneself for having overindulged, as well as guilt and anger at lack of control. Whatever is making your wife unhappy enough at this stage in her life/marriage/career to lead her to envelop her body in extra layers has got to be confronted if the pounds are to be shed.

But it is your wife — and not you — who must confront it. Perhaps it is something very basic which neither of you is facing. For example, maybe she is subcon-

sciously simulating pregnancy. (Your omission of children in your description leads me to believe that you may not have any yet.) The best way to assist her is through love and support.

Badgering her about her weight can only serve to exacerbate her lack of control. Since you describe your wife as "wonderful," it cannot be difficult for you to stress her positive side.

This probably will not turn her into Twiggy overnight, but it will at least give her a fighting chance to tackle the trouble.

Dear Ruthie,
It's that time of year again — help! All of my (five) kids are on vacation from school for several days before Pessah, making it that much more difficult to get the house ready for the holiday. My children range in age from two to 13. Please offer some concrete advice for mothers like me.

Pessah Peeved
Jerusalem

Dear PP,
Every year around this time, I receive a similar question. And, though I never plagiarize myself, I imagine that my answer comes out pretty much the same every year. It is advice I as a mother attempt to take every year as well.

Enlist your kids. If you do this cleverly, they will get a big kick out of it. If you do it with a sense of humor, it will not drive you too far up the wall.

And if you assign very specific tasks — with clear beginnings and clear ends — the kids are more likely to actually perform the tasks than if they are general "clean up this, wash out that" requests.

Then remember: the whole country is in the same boat, and rare is the mother who retains her sense of humor up until the setting of the Seder table.

Letters should be addressed to: 'Dear Ruthie,' POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem. For E-mail: editors@jpost.co.il

HEADS 'N' TAILS

Keep your pets at home for Pessah

By D'YORA BEN SHAIUL

The simplest solution to keeping pets during Pessah is to put them in a kennel. This, however, is rather expensive and is not going to make the pets very happy. It is better to keep them at home and to feed them on kosher-for-Pessah foods.

Easiest are cats and dogs. Just get rid of the kibbled dog and cat food and the tins and feed them meat, fish and milk products.

It may be a bit more expensive, but nevertheless, the cost is

much less than kenneling — and they will love the new diet. But, be very careful.

Do not feed chicken bones unless they have been so thoroughly cooked in a pressure cooker that they are soft and mushy.

Children's pets such as guinea pigs (also called cavy or whistlers), mice, rabbits and hamsters can all get by on an all-vegetable diet.

You may also give them a bit of hay or even fresh grass. Guinea pigs and mice can even handle a small amount of matza,

but don't feed it to rabbits. Birds pose the biggest problem during Pessah. They live on a diet of seeds and these seeds are definitely hametz.

The best way to solve this problem is to send the birds to a kennel facility for the week. Most dog and cat kennels, including the SPCA, will usually accommodate a cage of budgies or a parrot.

There is an alternative, however. Put the cage into a sheltered place on a balcony, putting up plastic sheeting to prevent any drafts. Keep the bird and its food

in this area.

This may or may not satisfy you, but, in any case, never try to change their diet. The number of birds who have been fed matza is approximately equal to the number of dead birds found by the end of the festival.

As for aquaria, if there is a good supply of green plants in the tank then aquarium fish can actually get along very well without being fed for a week. They can be fed a few matza-meal crumbs and a tiny bit of crumbled yolk of a hard-boiled egg, but even that is a treat.

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Shaq's back in style

INGLEWOOD (AP) — Shaquille O'Neal returned from a 28-game layoff with 24 points and 11 rebounds as the Los Angeles Lakers snapped the Phoenix Suns' 11-game winning streak with a 114-98 victory on Friday night.

O'Neal, his left knee encased in a purple brace, played as though he had never been away. He scored 10 of the Lakers' first 13 points on an impressive array of slam dunks that ignited 17,505 cheering fans at the Forum.

All wasn't perfect for the 7-foot-1 center. He briefly left the game in the second quarter with a lacerated right eyelid that needed two stitches. And a problem that nagged him before the injury — poor free-throw shooting — persisted upon his return. He missed all three of his foul shots.

Celtics 104, Cavaliers 101
Host Boston broke a 10-game losing streak and hurt Cleveland's playoff chances as David Wesley hit a layup and three free throws in the last 34 seconds for an overtime victory.

The Cavaliers had a last chance to win, but Terrell Brandon slipped and then hurried a 3-point shot that missed at the buzzer.

Cleveland dropped one game behind Washington, which beat New Jersey, for the eighth and final East playoff spot.

Boston, just 3-31 in its last 34 games, was led by Todd Day with 30 points and Wesley with 22. For Cleveland, Brandon had 31 points, 11 assists and seven rebounds.

Hawks 104, Pacers 92
Visiting Atlanta showed why it's going to the playoffs and Indiana is not, doing all the little things the Pacers used to do — they played solid defense, hit 3-pointers and used a big center to dominate the paint.

Atlanta shot 55 percent from the field — including 11-of-21 from long range — and Dikembe Mutombo controlled things inside by scoring 20 points.

Steve Smith and Mookie Blaylock both had 23 and Christian Laettner had 20 points and nine rebounds.

Bullets 109, Nets 90

Chris Webber made his first nine field goal attempts and scored 19 points as Washington won at home. Webber finished 9-of-10 from the field. He also had eight rebounds, five steals and two assists in 31 minutes. Juwan Howard scored 21 points and Rod Strickland had 16 points and 15 assists for the Bullets, who never trailed in their 10th win in 13 games.

Hornets 93, Pistons 85
Anthony Mason had 23 points and 11 rebounds and Ricky Pierce added 20 points to lead Charlotte to a road win.

The win gave the Hornets a split of the four-game season series and moved Charlotte into a tie with Detroit for the fifth playoff spot in the Eastern Conference. Charlotte has won six straight while the Pistons have lost four in a row.

Charlotte outbounded Detroit 47-30 to help overcome Grant Hill's 11th triple-double of the year. Hill finished with 20 points, 14 rebounds and 11 assists, while Joe Dumars added 21 points.

Bucks 126, 76ers 118
Allen Iverson scored 44 points, reaching 40 for the third straight game to tie Wilt Chamberlain's NBA rookie record, but visiting Philadelphia still lost.

Glenn Robinson scored 40 points and Ray Allen added 27 for the Bucks, who snapped a four-game losing streak. The Sixers lost their sixth straight despite the dynamic effort of Iverson, a top candidate for rookie of the year. He hit 16 of 28 shots and had nine

Friday's results: Boston 103, Cleveland 101 (OT); Washington 109, New Jersey 90; Atlanta 104, Indiana 92; Charlotte 93, Detroit 85; Milwaukee 126, Philadelphia 118; Utah 104, Houston 83; Sacramento 97, Golden State 87; L.A. Lakers 114, Phoenix 98.

Thursday's results: Orlando 105, Toronto 69; Chicago 105, New York 103; New Jersey 93, Milwaukee 88; Miami 93, Detroit 83; Seattle 90, Dallas 82; Houston 102, Vancouver 94; Portland 98, San Antonio 81; Minnesota 108, L.A. Clippers 96; Phoenix 101, Sacramento 99; Golden State 109, Denver 107 (OT)

assists. Chamberlain is the only other player to score at least 40 in three straight games during his rookie year. He did it three times in the 1959-60 season.

Jazz 104, Rockets 83
Host Utah tied a franchise record with its 60th victory and matched its best winning streak of the season with its 15th straight.

Karl Malone had 28 points and 13 rebounds and Bryon Russell added 19 points for the Jazz.

Kings 97, Warriors 87
Corliss Williamson scored 21 of his 22 points in the second half as host Sacramento kept its slim playoff hopes alive.

With four games remaining, Sacramento trails the Los Angeles Clippers by 24 games for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Western Conference.

Williamson also had 13 rebounds.

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Y-Miami	59	18	.766	—
X-New York	53	24	.688	6
Orlando	43	34	.558	16
Washington	20	57	.259	27
New Jersey	24	53	.312	35
Philadelphia	21	56	.273	38
Boston	14	64	.179	45 1/2
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
X-Chicago	58	10	.872	—
X-Atlanta	53	24	.688	14 1/2
X-Detroit	51	26	.662	16 1/2
X-Charlotte	51	26	.662	16 1/2
Cleveland	39	38	.506	28 1/2
Indiana	37	40	.481	30 1/2
Milwaukee	30	47	.390	37 1/2
Toronto	28	49	.364	39 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
X-Utah	60	17	.779	—
X-Houston	53	25	.679	7 1/2
X-Minnesota	38	39	.494	22
Dallas	23	54	.298	37
Denver	20	57	.260	40
San Antonio	12	67	.152	49
Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
X-L.A. Lakers	53	25	.679	—
X-Portland	46	33	.582	8
X-Sacramento	38	40	.487	15 1/2
L.A. Clippers	34	43	.442	19
Sacramento	32	46	.410	21 1/2
Golden State	29	49	.372	24 1/2

z-clinched conference title
y-clinched division title
x-clinched playoff berth

Blackhawks makes postseason play

CHICAGO (AP) — Chicago barely kept one playoff tradition alive. Ottawa could end another one this weekend when the NHL's Eastern Conference decides its last two postseason openings.

The Western Conference closed its season on Friday night when the Blackhawks, driven by fear as much as pride, clinched eighth place with a 7-3 victory over the Calgary Flames.

The Chicago victory, led by Alex Zhamnov's hat trick, extended pro sports' longest active string of postseason appearances to 28 years. The Boston Bruins' streak of 29 straight is ending this year.

"Nobody wanted to be part of the first team in Chicago to miss the playoffs in 28 years," coach Craig Hartsburg said. "As much as X's and O's and things we tried to motivate the last couple of days, I think that was a big factor in everybody's mind. Pride. There's

pride in that jersey."

Ottawa, which has always finished last in the NHL since joining the league four seasons ago, got a step closer to the postseason as Wade Redden scored the tiebreaker with 2:32 left for a 3-2 victory over the Detroit Red Wings.

The Senators had to defeat Buffalo last night to guarantee them the eighth and final playoff berth in the East.

Can they handle the pressure? "We're really not out of control, emotionally," said Alexei Yashin, whose second-period goal gave the Senators a 2-0 lead. "I hope we can make it. When you expect too much, you never get it. We want to relax, not be too tense. But it's exciting."

Denny Lambert got the first goal for the Senators, while the Red Wings — in third place in the Western Conference — seemed uninspired until Sergei Fedorov

and Martin Lapointe tied it 2-2 in the third period.

"It's really come to a feverish pitch," Senators captain Randy Cunneyworth said. "We've talked about this all along. We felt right from the start of the season it was accomplishable."

Montreal is in seventh place with 76 points, followed by Ottawa in eighth with 75. Hartford is ninth with 74 and Tampa Bay 10th with 73. All of those teams have one game remaining, and Washington, 11th with 71 points, still has a slim chance with two games left.

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	T	Pts
X-New Jersey	45	22	14	104
Philadelphia	44	24	12	100
X-Florida	35	29	19	89
X-NY Rangers	34	30	18	86
Tampa Bay	32	38	10	74
X-Phoenix	31	40	9	71
NY Islanders	29	42	10	68
Central Division				
	W	L	T	Pts
X-Buffalo	40	25	12	92
X-Pittsburgh	38	35	8	84
Montreal	31	36	14	76
Ottawa	30	36	15	75
Hartford	31	39	11	73
Boston	28	37	9	65
Western Conference				
Central Division				
	W	L	T	Pts
X-Dallas	40	25	8	104
X-Detroit	38	25	18	94
X-Phoenix	38	27	7	83
X-St. Louis	35	35	11	81
X-San Jose	33	35	13	79
Toronto	29	44	9	68
Pacific Division				
	W	L	T	Pts
X-Columbus	40	28	12	92
X-Anheim	38	33	13	84
X-Edmonton	36	36	9	81
Vancouver	34	40	7	75
Calgary	32	40	7	71
Los Angeles	28	45	11	67
San Jose	27	46	8	62

Friday's results: NY Islanders 6, Hartford 4; Tampa Bay 4, NY Rangers 2; New Jersey 2, Boston 0; Florida 4, Pittsburgh 2; Ottawa 3, Detroit 2; Chicago 7, Calgary 3; Colorado 2, Dallas 1; Phoenix 6, Edmonton 2; Anaheim 4, San Jose 3.

Thursday's results: Buffalo 5, Boston 1; NY Rangers 6, Philadelphia 3; Washington 3, Montreal 2; Tampa Bay 4, Pittsburgh 3; St. Louis 5, Toronto 1.

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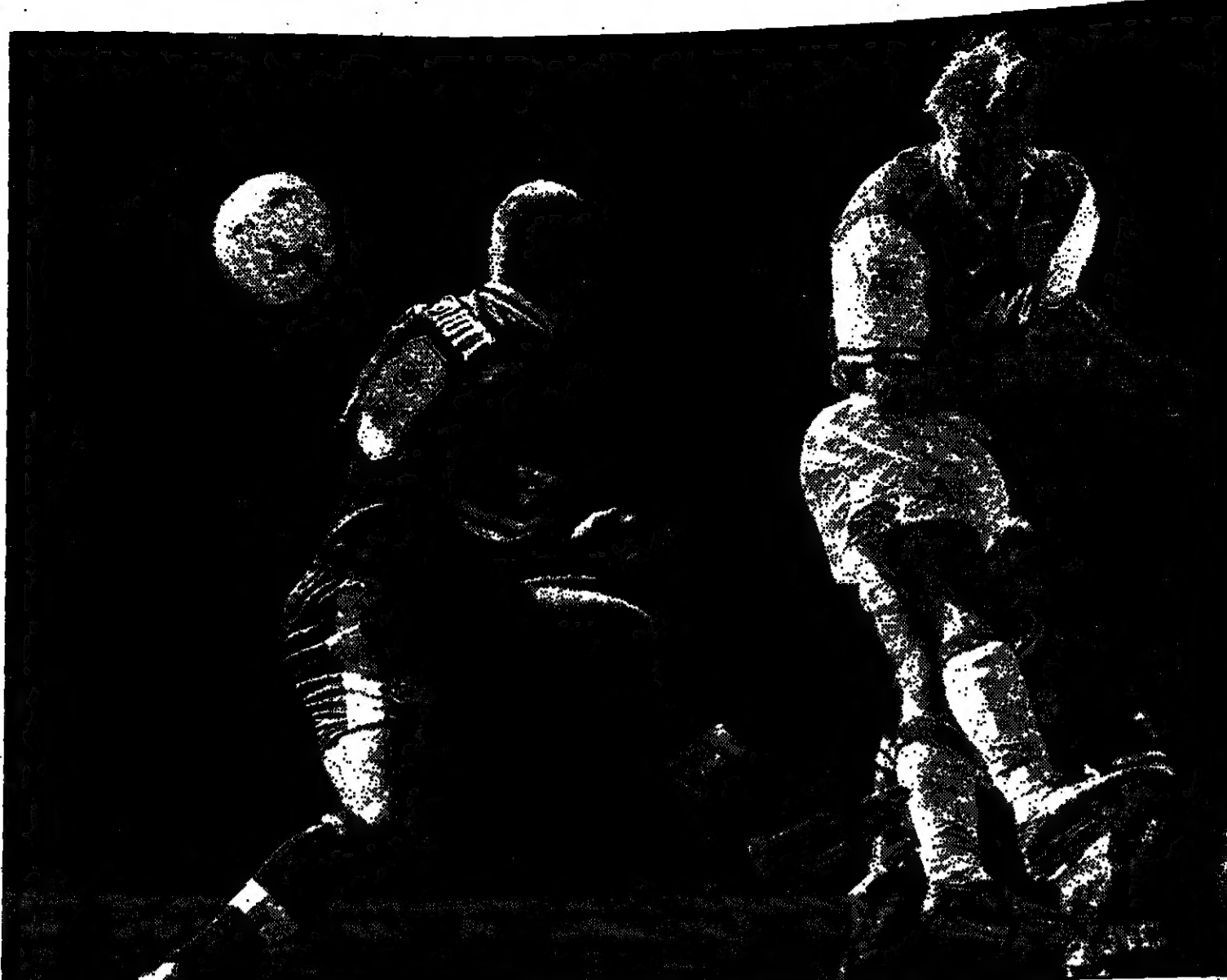
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HEADS UP — Matt Elliott of Leicester (l) and Arsenal's Dennis Bergkamp jump for the ball in Premier League action yesterday. Arsenal won 2-0. (Reuters)

United win at Blackburn

LONDON (AP) — Eric Cantona missed a penalty but scored in open play as Manchester United remained three points clear in the Premier League yesterday by winning 3-2 at Blackburn.

The Frenchman squandered an early chance to give the Reds the lead by firing his spot kick tamely at goalkeeper Tim Flowers.

But, after Andy Cole and Paul Scholes had scored for United, Cantona hit the third with 10 minutes to go. Scottish midfielder Billy McInlay and Paul Warhurst replied for Rovers.

The result means Alex Ferguson's team, which lost 1-0 at Borussia Dortmund in the European Champions Cup semifinal first leg Wednesday, remain on course to win a fourth Premier League title in five years.

Second-place Arsenal kept up the pressure with a 2-0 victory over mid-standings Leicester with goals from two former England captains, center back Tony Adams and midfielder David Platt.

United now have 66 points from 31 games, Blackburn 59, Manchester United 53, Derby 2, Aston Villa 1, Everton 1, Tottenham 0, Southampton 2, West Ham 0.

Division One: Barnsley 4, Charlton 0; Birmingham 1, Huddersfield 0; Bolton 4, Oxford United 0; Norwich 2, Stoke 0; Port Vale 3, Oldham 2; Portsmouth 1, Tranmere 3; Queens Park Rangers 3, Grimsby 0; Reading 2, Wolves 1; Sheffield United 3, Crystal Palace 0.

Division Two: Blackpool 2, Bury 0; Bournemouth 2, Gillingham 2; Crewe 1, Bristol Rovers 0; Millwall 0, Plymouth 0; Notts County 1, Wycombe 2; Peterborough 2, Preston 0; Shrewsbury 0, Wrexham 1; Stockport 1, Burnley 0; Walsall 3, Luton 2; Watford 4, York 0.

Division Three: Brighton 1, Wigan 0; Cardiff 1, Chester 0; Exeter 3, Lincoln 3; Fulham 0, Northampton 1; Hartlepool 0, Cambridge United 2; Leyton Orient 2, Doncaster 1; Rochdale 2, Darlington 0; Scarborough 1, Torquay 1; Barnet 2.

SCOTTISH CUP — Semifinal: Celtic 1, Falkirk 1 (at Ibrox Park, Glasgow, replay April 23).

SCOTTISH PREMIER: Dunfermline 1, Hibernian 1; Hearts 0, Aberdeen 0; Motherwell 5, Raith 0.

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33 and Arsenal have 63 from 34. The Gunners only have four games to play.

Third-place Liverpool, 60 points from 32 games, hope to stay in touch by winning at Sunderland today but have six points to make up on United with a game in hand.

Aston Villa held on to fourth place despite losing 2-1 at Derby but Newcastle can replace it today by winning at sixth-place Sheffield Wednesday. Villa have 56 points and 10 to make up on the leader and Newcastle 53 from 31 games.

The new last three, Nottingham Forest, Middlesbrough and Sunderland all were idle yesterday but Sunderland have the chance of climbing out again by beating Liverpool.

Today also sees the semifinals of the FA Cup with Wimbledon meeting Chelsea at Arsenal's Highbury and Division Two Chesterfield hoping to upset Middlesbrough at Old Trafford.

Bolton, already sure of promotion as Division One champion, took their goals tally for the season to 94 yesterday with a 4-0 crushing of Oxford with two strikes by Alan Thompson and more from Scott Sellars and Nathan Blake. Wanderers now

have 93 points and lead the standings by 20.

Barnsley, who hold the second automatic promotion spot, also had a 4-0 victory over Charlton and now hold a four-point lead over Wolves, who conceded two late goals and tumbled 2-1 at lowly Reading.

Tommy Johnson's first goal since his move from Aston Villa last month put Celtic in sight of its 48th Scottish Cup final until Kevin James' header for Falkirk earned the Division One team a 1-1 tie and a replay April 23.

Like yesterday's game, the semifinal replay will be at Rangers' Ibrox Park as Falkirk bids for its first final for 40 years and Celtic its 31st title.

The other semifinal is tomorrow between Kilmarnock and Dundee United at Easter Road, Edinburgh.

Arsenal 2, Leicester 0 (1-0)
Center back Tony Adams gave the Gunners the lead in the 35th minute with a header from Dennis Bergkamp's cross. David Platt made it 2-0 in the 66th, collecting a pass from Bergkamp before shooting home on the turn.

Blackburn 2, Man Utd 3 (1-2)
Rovers goalkeeper Tim Flowers

Man City 41 15 8 17 53 53 54
Reading 42 14 12 18 52 59 54
Sheff Wed 43 13 14 16 55 70 53
Swindon 43 15 8 20 52 67 53
Oxford Utd 43 14 9 20 52 67 53
Huddersfield 43 12 13 18 46 60 49
Bradford 42 10 12 20 43 58 42
Grimsby 41 9 12 20 52 67 53
Okeham 42 9 12 21 46 62 38
Southend 43 8 15 20 40 78 39

Division Two
Bury 41 21 10 10 58 38 73
Brentford 41 19 14 8 55 38 71
Luton 41 19 12 10 57 44 69
Stockport 41 18 12 10 57 44 69
Crewe 41 21 5 15 51 36 69
Watford 41 18 7 17 43 28 66
Walsall 42 10 14 13 53 47 64
Barnet 42 9 15 19 46 43 55
Wrexham 41 15 17 9 46 43 55
Bristol City 41 17 10 14 59 47 61
Millwall 43 18 13 14 50 60 61
Blackpool 41 15 12 12 51 49 59
Chesterfield 39 14 14 11 38 34 58
Gillingham 41 15 10 16 51 55 55

Division One
Barnsley 43 27 12 4 94 50 83
Barnet 42 20 13 8 58 45 72
Wolves 42 19 9 13 61 47 69
Sheff Wed 43 19 11 13 73 51 68
Port Vale 43 17 15 11 56 50 66
Ipswich 42 17 13 12 53 49 64
Norwich 43 17 11 15 63 63 62
Tranmere 42 17 11 14 60 51 62
Preston 42 18 8 16 58 42 62
Crystal Pal 41 16 10 15 56 44 56
QPR 43 18 12 15 59 67 60
Birmingham 42 15 13 14 47 47 58
Stoke 42 15 10 16 47 53 58
Charlton 42 15 10 17 49 60 55

Division Three
p-Wigan 44 24 9 11 79 51 81
p-Fulham 43 23 11 9 69 58 80

Man City 41 15 8 17 53 53 54
Reading 42 14 12 18 52 59 54
Sheff Wed 43 13 14 16 55 70 53
Swindon 43 15 8 20 52 67 53
Oxford Utd 43 14 9 20 52 67 53
Huddersfield 43 12 13 18 46 60 49
Bradford 42 10 12 20 43 58 42
Grimsby 41 9 12 20 52 67 53
Okeham 42 9 12 21 46 62 38
Southend 43 8 15 20 40 78 39

Division Two
Bury 41 21 10 10 58 38 73
Brentford 41 19 14 8 55 38 71
Luton 41 19 12 10 57 44 69
Stockport 41 18 12 10

Woods leads after 2nd round

Faldo, Norman fail to make cut at Masters

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — The preposterous prediction that Jack Nicklaus made about Tiger Woods winning at least 10 green jackets is starting to make sense.

It's not so much that Woods is leading the Masters, shooting a 6-under 66 Friday to take a 3-stroke lead over Colin Montgomerie.

It's how he's manhandling Augusta National like nobody has since Nicklaus.

"It's a shame Bob Jones isn't here," Nicklaus said. "He could have saved the words for me in '63 for this young man, because he's certainly playing a game we're not familiar with." That goes for just about everybody left in the field.

Montgomerie hit a driver and a 4-iron that just cleared Rae's Creek, guarding the par-5 13th green and settled nicely in a swale. Woods showed up four groups later and hit a 3-wood off the tee, then an 8-iron to 20 feet behind the hole, setting up an eagle.

On the 500-yard 15th hole, Woods went for the green in two — with a pitching wedge from 151 yards.

There also was a sand wedge into the green at No. 5, which measures 435 yards, a sand wedge to the 405-yard 14th hole and birdies at both.

"That's the thing people used to say about me," said Nicklaus, who won most of his record six green jackets with his prodigious length and fearless belief that the Masters was his to win.

"I'm sitting down there playing 9-irons and 8-irons and wedges, and everyone is back there with 3-irons and 2-irons," Nicklaus said. "And I'm sort of laughing and snickering, saying, 'Boy, this is a tough course.'"

Tiger has the ability to do that. That's why this young man is so special. He makes the golf course into nothing."

Woods, who played the first nine holes of the tournament in 4-over 40, was at 8-under 136. Montgomerie shot a 67 for 139, and Costantino Rocca was another shot back after a 69.

The golf course could be a little easier for everybody today.

Rain fell steadily for about three hours early yesterday morning — less than an inch of rain, but enough to soften the course and allow players to attack in spots.

Nick Faldo won't be one of them. He became only the seventh defending champion to miss the cut after shooting an 81, his worst score ever in a major championship. Greg Norman, who blew a 6-stroke lead in the final round last year, had another breakdown on the back nine and also missed the cut.

Woods' lead isn't as large as the 4-stroke lead that Norman took into the third round over Faldo, but it seems bigger because of the way he's hitting the ball.

"This is what I came here to do, to try to win the tournament," Woods said. "I'm pretty happy with the way I'm playing."

The joke about Woods was that Augusta should play as a par 68 for him because his length — his average driving distance was 337 yards Friday — made the par 55 reachable in two.

"I don't think par is 68 for me," Woods said. "Realistically, it's probably more like 70."

Montgomerie has been in contention at major championships far more often than Woods. He lost in a three-way playoff at the U.S. Open in 1994 with Ernie Els and Loren Roberts, and a playoff to



WUNDERKIND — Tiger Woods smiles after taking 3-shot lead over Colin Montgomerie after second-round action on Friday.

Steve Elkington at the PGA Championship two years ago.

He knows enough that the tournament is far from over, and that he needs to play Augusta the way his game allows, putting the blinders on when Woods is booming drives from the tee box.

"There's no match situation at all," the Scotsman said. "He's playing his ball and I'm playing mine." But his next thought was inevitable.

"On the drives, I wish I was playing his," he said.

Should the pressure of a Masters weekend start to take hold of Woods, there are

plenty of others with major championship experience not far behind.

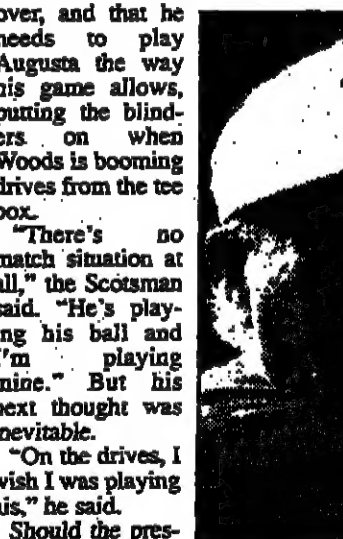
Two who have won here before — Fred Couples and Jose Maria Olazabal — were at 3-under 141. Nick Price and Paul Azinger were at 142, and Tom Watson birdied the last four holes to get to 143.

"It depends on how Mr. Woods fares," Montgomerie said. "The way he's playing, this course tends to suit him more than anyone else. If he decides to do what he's doing, we'll all shake his hand say."

He had never broken par in two previous Masters, saying the final exams he took the week before coming to Augusta was no way to prepare for a major championship.

"Because of that, I couldn't practice," Woods said. "I was going to be at a disadvantage compared to the other pros who are tournament tough. This year, I've had the same advantages they have — relatively speaking, that is."

Relatively speaking, indeed. When it comes to overpowering a course like Augusta National, there seems to be no comparison.



Arnold Palmer bids adieu, finishing 14-over par after the second round.

Title race warms up as Bet. Jerusalem lose again

By DEREK FATTAL and ORI LEVINS

Something is happening to Betar Jerusalem. Despite their lead at the top of the National League, the club again failed to keep up their momentum and suffered a second loss in as many weeks yesterday, going down 2-0 at home to Maccabi Haifa.

Betar's lead at the top has now been cut to just five points, and although coach Eli Cohen is putting a brave face on things, another loss next week will change the whole complexion of the title race, as Hapoel Beersheba and Hapoel Petah Tikva — who both won yesterday — close the gap.

Betar's opponents next Saturday are Hapoel Kfar Sava, who handed Maccabi Tel Aviv a comprehensive thrashing at the National Stadium yesterday. The 2-0 scoreline in favor of the visitors effectively ends Maccabi's hopes of clinching a European cup berth next season.

Hapoel Taiba revived their morale after last week's defeat of Hapoel Beersheba, scoring a crucial 1-0 home win at Umm el-Fahm over Zafirim Holon. The win is their first since October. Taiba are far from safe, and still look like prime candidates for relegation.

Their win helped Hapoel Tel Aviv, however, who leap-frogged Holon on goal difference and are out of the bottom two for the first time since January.

Betar Jerusalem 0

Maccabi Haifa 2

Betar came crashing down to earth yesterday at Teddy Stadium with their third loss of the season, and more importantly their second defeat in succession.

The whole scenario should have been avoided as the Jerusalemites hammered at the goal of Nir Davidovitch towards the close of the first half creating several excellent chances in the space of 15 minutes, only to go in to the tunnel at the break empty-handed.

Maccabi came out for the second period as if they had passed through a time warp that took them back to the fine-flowing soccer that characterized their play in recent years. In the 53rd minute, Idan Shum let rip a shot from all of 30 meters from Itzik Kornfein's goal to put Haifa in the lead.

Betar coach Eli Cohen responded to the pleas of the 12,000 fans by bringing on Ronen Harazi for central defender Ehad Chahila in an attempt to find the equalizer. In one attacking move, Davidovitch cleared with his legs to foil both Eli Ohana and then Itzik Zohar from point blank range.

The Haifaite's retort was a lightning break on the left in the 60th minute when Moshe Glan tearing down the flank before releasing a great cross that was met at the far side by Sergei Kandourvov who delivered just the precise touch needed to beat the stranded Kornfein.

Hapoel Beersheba 3

Hapoel Jerusalem 1

This victory coupled with Betar's defeat should make for an interesting climax to what had looked to be an easy cruise-in to the title for the league leaders. Hapoel Jerusalem were played as equals in the first 50 minutes, and had the first opportunity to open the scoreline when Moti Ohayon came close with an effort from a corner in the 20th minute, then later when Assi Toubi flashed a shot over the bar.

In an immediate reply to Toubi's attempt, Liron Basis created a fast break in the 37th minute and found Dudu Hefer. Hefer, who turned out to be the central figure in the game added the finish to put the southerners in the lead.

The Jerusalemites struck back two minutes after the interval through Toubi, only to fall victim to another Hefer goal in the 57th minute.

Beersheba's Said Halilovic made certain of victory, converting from the penalty spot with just over 20 minutes left to play.

Hapoel Taiba 1

Zafirim Holon 0

After last week's tragic loss of Walid Jabara, Taiba returned to Umm el-Fahm and this time collected their first victory of the season since round six. A short remembrance ceremony preceded the game, and predictably it took time for the Taiba side to settle into any sort of rhythm against an opponent also fighting for its survival in the National League.

In the second half, Taiba began to look more assured. Yevgeny Kashentsev had a shot cleared off the line, then Moti Yeverbaum was disallowed a goal in a tight offside call. Two minutes later, in the 79th minute, Ya'acov Hillel delivered a measured cross from the left into the area which Yeverbaum hammered into goal to give the Taibans some long deserved cheer.

Maccabi Petah Tikva 1

Hapoel Beit She'an 1

The Beit She'an fans celebrated a vital point at the end of this draw, which keeps them neck and neck with Maccabi Herzliya and Ironi Rishon just above the relegation zone. Ofer Shireet had put the Petah Tikvans ahead early on, but Beit She'an's solid determination paid off with a goal from Meir Melika in the 48th minute.

Maccabi Herzliya 1

Hapoel Tel Aviv 1

Friday's relegation battle attracted over 5,000 spectators. Both sides lived up to their league standings in a poor first half but fortunately the level of soccer improved after the interval as Herzliya began to exert some meaningful pressure which resulted in a 65th-minute goal when a Tomer Azulai cross from the right was slotted beyond the reach of Shavit Elimelech by Roman Filipchuk.

Despite the setback Hapoel continued the fight, and in the 85th minute, a 20-meter free kick by Hapoel's Yossi Medar ended with Herzliya goalkeeper Shuli Gilardi picking the ball out of his goal.

Hapoel Haifa 0

Ironi Rishon Lezion 3

The Rishonites, with Danny Albert on song, performed a near-miraculous recovery after losing 6-0 last weekend to Maccabi Petah Tikva. While Haifa fans will be looking to blame coach Ivan Katalinic for leaving captain Tal

Banin out of the side following remarks made by Banin in a newspaper interview on Thursday, the result suggests fundamental problems continue to prevent the side built up by owner Rubie Shapira from becoming a meaningful force in the league.

Twenty-six-year-old Albert put Rishon on the right track just after the quarter hour, seizing the opening goal in the wake of a mistake by the Hapoel defense. A mere 20 seconds after the second half kicked off, Albert fed a pass to Avi Pinissi who turned and shot into goal.

In the 84th minute Albert was in action again, playing the ball through to Tal Banin who added Rishon's third.

Bnei Yehuda 1

Hapoel Petah Tikva 3

The match came to life in the second half when Petah Tikva's Garbo Maron sent the ball flying into Guy Nachshon's goal in the 54th minute, followed by Moti Kakkon fastening on to a loose ball in the Bnei Yehuda area to make it 2-0 for the visitors three minutes later. Alon Mizrahi launched a comeback for Bnei Yehuda with a goal in the 65th minute.

Moti Kakkon ensured a Petah Tikva victory five minutes from time scoring his second of the match.

Maccabi Tel Aviv 1

The 13th-minute dismissal of Maccabi defender Amir Shelah for intentional handballing in the area set the tone for the rest of the game. Shelah's foolish action failed to save a goal as Yaniv Aberjil blasted in from the spot to put the Kfar Savans into the lead.

Two minutes later the Tel Avivans were appealing for a penalty when Ran Nachman appeared to have been fouled in the Hapoel area, but referee Haim Ya'acov waved play on.

Nachman got his revenge in the 20th minute, making Maccabi's equalizer with a cocky backheel to Haim Hajaj who found the back of the net.

Four minutes before the break the Tel Aviv team were appealing for another penalty when Avi Nimni went down on the edge of the box but again the referee waved play on.

The ensuing break ended with Aberjil threatening Alon Brumer. Maccabi's last line of defense at the other-end, and this time to the dismay of the Tel Aviv fans, referee Ya'acov pointed to the spot after Brumer fouled the Kfar Sava striker.

For the second time, Aberjil sent Alexander Obarov the wrong way with his penalty kick and put Kfar Sava back in the lead.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Hapoel Taiba	(0) 1	Zafirim Holon	(0) 0
Moti Yeverbaum, 79		Hapoel Petah Tikva	(0) 3
Bnei Yehuda	(0) 1	Garbo Maron, 54	
Alon Mizrahi, 65		Moti Kakkon, 57, 85	
Betar Jerusalem	(0) 0	Maccabi Haifa	(0) 2
		Idan Shum, 53	
Maccabi Tel Aviv	(1) 1	Sergei Kandourvov, 57	
Haim Harel, 20		Hapoel Kfar Sava, 22	
Maccabi Herzliya	(0) 1	Yaniv Aberjil, 15, 41 (pens)	
Roman Filipchuk, 65		Hapoel Tel Aviv	(0) 1
Dudu Hefer, 37, 57		Yossi Medar, 85	
Said Halilovic, 68 (pen)		Hapoel Jerusalem	(0) 1
Hapoel Haifa	(0) 0	Haim Harel, 47	
		Assi Toubi, 48	
		Ironi Rishon	(1) 3
		Danny Albert, 16	
		Avi Pinissi, 46	
		Tal Banin, 84	
Maccabi Petah Tikva	(1) 1	Hapoel Beit She'an	(0) 1
Ofer Shireet, 7		Meir Melika, 48	

SECOND DIVISION

Maccabi Acre	2	Ironi Ashdod	0
Maccabi Kiryat Gat	1	Hapoel Bat Yam	0
Hapoel Hadera	1	Hapoel Ashdod	1
Maccabi Yotvata	1	Hapoel Kiryat Shmona	1
Ness Ziona	1	Maccabi Netanya	1
Hapoel Ramat Gan	0	Maccabi Kfar Kana	1
Hapoel Ashdod	2	Maccabi Jaffa	3
Betar Tel Aviv	1	Hakoah Ramat Gan	1

This week's winning Toto line: 1,2,2,2,1,2,1,1,1,2,2,2,2,2

This week's winning Toto Plus line: XXX,2,1,1,2,1,XXX,2,2,2

This week's Totototo line: 1,2,5,8,11,16,28

National League

	P	W	D	L	Gf	Ga	Dif.	Pts
Betar Jerusalem	25	18	4	3	53	16	37	58
Hapoel Beersheba	25	17	2	6	40	21	19	53
Hapoel Petah Tikva	25	14	7	4	41	24	17	49
Maccabi Tel Aviv	25	13	6	6	44	26	18	45
Maccabi Petah Tikva	25	12	7	6	36	21	15	43
Hapoel Kfar Sava	25	10	6	9	28	27	1	36
Hapoel Haifa	25	10	5	10	28	27	1	35
Bnei Yehuda	24	9	7	8	23	26	-3	34
Maccabi Haifa	25	8	9	8	29	36	-10	29
Hapoel Jerusalem	25	8	5	12	26	36	-10	29
Hapoel Beit She'an	25	7	6	12	21	27	-6	27
Maccabi Herzliya	25	8	3	14	16	24	-8	27
Ironi Rishon Lezion	25	7	6	12	27	43	-16	27
Hapoel Tel Aviv	25	4	9	12	13	25	-12	21
Zafirim Holon	25	4	9	12	15	33	-18	21
Hapoel Taiba	24	4	1	19	14	51	-37	13

Second Division

	P	W	D	L	Gf	Ga	Dif.	Pts
Hapoel Ashkelon	26	17	5	4	32	13	19	56
Ironi Ashdod	26	14	6	6	41	24	17	48
Maccabi Netanya	26	14	6	6	45	31	14	48
Hakoah Ramat Gan	26	12	7	7	36	22	14	43
Hapoel Bat Yam	26	11	8	7	32	20	12	41
Maccabi Kfar Kana	26	10	8	8	26	26	0	38
Maccabi Jaffa	26	10	6	10	38	33	5	36
Hapoel Ramat Gan	26	7	11	8	24	19	5	32
Betar Tel Aviv	26	8	8	10	24	33	-9	32
Maccabi Kiryat Gat	26	7	10	9	22	30	-8	31
Maccabi Acre	26	6	11	9	22	26	-4	29
Hapoel Ashdod	26	7	7	12	26	29	-3	28
Ness Ziona	26	7	6	13	26	39	-13	27
Hapoel Kiryat Shmona	26	5	11	10	18	29	-11	26
Maccabi Yotvata	26	7	4	15	21	45	-24	25
Hapoel Hadera	26	4	10	12	21	35	-14	22

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NEWS

in brief

Fisherman drowns off Acre

A 46-year-old fisherman drowned while fishing with two friends on a boat near Acre early Friday morning. According to his friends, the sea was very choppy and two of them fell off the boat. One managed to swim to shore, while the other's body was washed up later in the morning. Police have asked for an autopsy. *Itim*

Weizman threatens to boycott prize ceremony

President Ezer Weizman will boycott the Israel Prize awards ceremony on Independence Day, if journalist Shmuel Schnitzer insists on receiving his journalism prize, Beit Hanassi Director-General Arye Shumer announced on Channel 2 on Friday.

"We gave Schnitzer a chance to retreat from the things he wrote, but he is not recanting and so the president will be absent from the ceremony," Shumer said.

In his Ma'ariv column on Friday, Schnitzer wrote that he would not give up the prize, nor retract his remarks in return for a presidential handshake. *Itim*

Man stabbed to death in Rishon LeZion

Yisrael Kutler, 35, a Rishon LeZion resident, was found dead, apparently from stab wounds, in the lobby of a building in the town yesterday.

Police arrested two suspects. They said that Kutler was known to be a drug addict and had been involved in drug and property crimes. *Itim*

NATO fleet arrives in Israel

Seven ships in the NATO fleet in the Mediterranean, known as the Saharforded, dock in Haifa today for a six-day visit aimed at strengthening ties between Israel and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The fleet is made up from NATO partners and includes ships from Greece, Germany, Holland, Spain, Turkey, Britain and the United States. It is commanded by Greek Rear-Adm. Nikifidis Kostantinos, who is to meet with OC Navy Adm. Alex Tal. Senior commanders will be taken on a tour of the IDF Navy base in Haifa and will be invited to the graduation ceremony of the Navy's cadets course, the army said. *Arieh O'Sullivan*

Israel, Quebec ink science, technology pact

Israel and Quebec have signed a wide-ranging scientific and technology agreement, with an emphasis on higher education and joint research programs, the building of technological research frameworks, meetings between scientists and researchers, and the training of young researchers in education, scientific research and technological development.

Israel and Quebec will offer each other 14 scholarships, to be divided between men and women, cancelling supplementary tuition overseas students must pay.

Joint committees of the Israeli and Quebec Education and foreign ministries will recommend scholarship candidates, with recipients chosen by the respective governments offering the grants. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Shamgar, Eisenstadt to receive honorary PhDs

Retired Supreme Court Justice Meir Shamgar will be granted an honorary doctorate by Tel Aviv University during the school's upcoming annual meeting of the Board of Governors.

Shamgar is being honored for leaving his imprint on the Israeli judicial system and his great contribution to strengthening the judiciary.

Shamgar, who retired in 1995, served in the Supreme Court for 20 years, 12 as president of the court.

The Board of Governors will also award an honorary doctorate to leading Israeli sociologist Prof. Shmuel Eisenstadt for his continuing work in the field and his ongoing research on the relationships between the generations, absorption of new immigrants, and the quality of Israeli culture. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Non-Orthodox leaders meet gov't officials in NY

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK — Israeli officials met again on Friday with representatives of Reform and Conservative Jewry in New York, trying to find common ground on the issue of Israel's conversion legislation.

It was the third time in a week that Israeli officials met with American opponents of the legislation, beginning with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's meeting last Monday in Washington.

Yisrael Ba'aliya MK Alexander Lubotzky, Bobby Brown, Netanyahu's adviser on Diaspora affairs, and Gideon Meir of the Foreign Ministry spent nearly three hours on Friday closeted with four leaders of the Reform and Conservative movements.

Brown said this week's meetings may be the first time that Israeli officials have met with

Diaspora leaders just to listen, not to lecture. He characterized Friday's discussion as "good" but inconclusive.

"We are looking for different ideas that everyone can live with," Brown said Friday, declining to specify possible alternatives. He did say any potential compromise would have to be reviewed by the attorney-general to determine whether it would have legal implications for the Christian and Moslem communities.

Friday's meeting came two days after the Conservative movement's Rabbinical Assembly passed a resolution demanding that the Knesset reject the pending conversion legislation, and distancing itself from any MK who supports the measure. A comparable statement from the leadership of the Reform and Conservative movements was issued a week earlier.

Brown, who had spent hours meeting with the Conservative rabbis at their convention last

week in Boston, called the resolution "self-defeating." "These are 'kishke' issues that get blown out of proportion," Brown said. As the agitation increases, he said, "it's a zero-sum game, because silly things become matters of principle."

The conversion legislation is a "symbol of whether or not diversity in Jewish life will be tolerated and legitimated," Rabbi Joel Meyers, director of the Rabbinical Assembly, said last week.

But, Brown suggested, it has also become a symbol of the distance between Israel and the Diaspora. The Americans are agitated about legislation that has not gripped Israelis, while significant Israeli issues are not on the American Jewish agenda, he said.

"We have two different societies with different bottom-line norms," Brown said, "and we have to see where the points of connection are."



Chilean sapling

Jorge Soria (center), the mayor of Iquique, Chile, and his wife, Soria, are greeted by Jewish National Fund official Eliran Kessar at a tree-planting ceremony on Friday for 54 mayors attending an international conference in Jerusalem. *(Joe Malcohn)*

Israel blocks IPU membership for PA

By LIAT COLLINS

The Knesset delegation participating in the International Parliamentary Union (IPU) con-

vention in Seoul, South Korea has succeeded in blocking an attempt by the Palestinian National Council to join the union as a full member.

On Wednesday, the Moslem countries participating in the IPU convention proposed that the PNC be admitted to the body. Members of the PNC presented the convention with documents stating that they represented Palestinians around the world, including Israeli Arabs.

The Israeli delegation — comprising Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon, coalition and Likud faction chairman Michael Eitan, Labor faction chairman Ra'anan Cohen and Knesset Clerk Arye Hahn — appealed the decision on grounds that according to IPU rules only sovereign states can be members.

The Knesset representatives met with members of more than 100 delegations in four days to present Israel's objections.

In a dramatic vote last night, the proposal by the Moslem states was defeated by 106 to 56 and the PNC was refused membership.

Hadassah doctors step up sanctions

By JUDY SIEGEL

Doctors at Jerusalem's Hadassah-University Hospital on Mt. Scopus will close nearly all ambulatory services today, as part of their continuing protest against the unilateral cancellation by the Hadassah Medical Organization of its physicians' collective agreement.

All outpatient clinics, day treatment (except for dialysis and in-vitro fertilization units), radiology, and scanning will be closed and only emergency surgery will be performed. Prof. Shaul Yatziv, a member of the HMO doctors' committee, last night apologized to the patients for the "inconvenience."

In addition, Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical

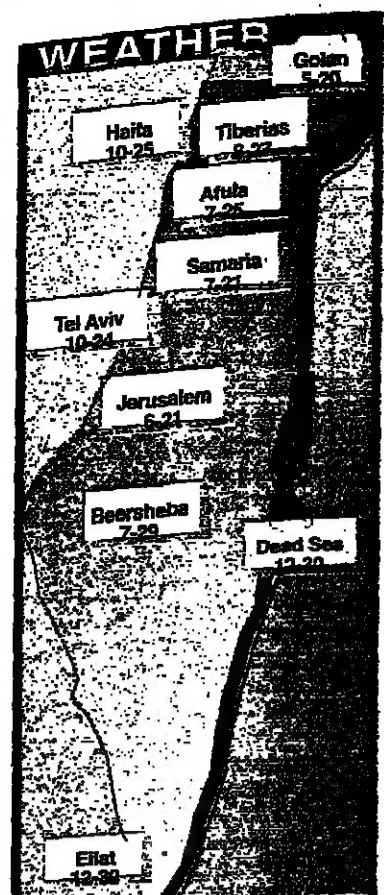
School lecturers continue to refuse to teach.

A second meeting between HMO management and the Labor Ministry's official in charge of labor relations will be held today after their first meeting last week failed to resolve the issues.

Doctors at both Hadassah-University hospitals said they are willing to be "partners in HMO's recovery program, but would not accept sanctions" by management against them.

HMO is mired in a NIS 187 million deficit and has agreed to adopt a recovery program in exchange for NIS 50m. in state aid.

The doctors have not accepted management's proposals for reducing labor costs by NIS 50m.



Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear. Rise in temperatures.

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW	HIGH	WIND	WEATHER	
Berlin	01	34	14	57	cloudy
Buenos Aires	11	36	24	75	cloudy
Damascus	02	32	08	48	cloudy
Frankfurt	08	46	14	57	clear
Geneva	07	37	14	57	cloudy
Helsinki	01	27	04	39	cloudy
Hong Kong	21	70	24	75	clear
Jakarta	19	43	20	68	cloudy
London	03	37	12	54	clear
Los Angeles	15	68	13	55	clear
Madrid	02	28	09	45	cloudy
Manila	23	30	17	61	cloudy
Moscow	01	34	14	57	cloudy
New York	01	34	14	57	cloudy
Paris	01	34	14	57	cloudy
Rome	01	34	14	57	cloudy
Sao Paulo	15	27	08	39	clear
Sydney	19	48	18	64	clear
Tokyo	03	37	12	54	clear
Toronto	01	34	14	57	cloudy
Vienna	01	34	14	57	cloudy
Zurich	01	34	14	57	cloudy

Winning cards

In Friday's Chance draw, the lucky cards were the ace of spades, jack of hearts, 10 of diamonds, and 9 of clubs.

Haredi group issues summons to WJRO over Holocaust assets

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK — The World Council of Orthodox Jewish Communities, a haredi coalition, has summoned the World Jewish Restitution Organization to a *beit din* (religious court) in Brooklyn, contending that it does not represent Holocaust survivors in efforts to recover Jewish property from World War II.

The WJRO, under the leadership of Edgar Bronfman and Israel Singer of the World Jewish Congress, has been at the forefront of the battle to recoup dormant Jewish assets in Swiss banks and to reach agreements for the recovery of Jewish property elsewhere in Europe.

The summons charges the WJRO and its member organizations with misrepresentation of survivors' claims. It calls for the WJRO to immediately cease all such "unauthorized" activities and to disclose all agreements and activities in the name of survivors.

The World Council also has filed one of the three lawsuits against the Swiss banks. Lawyer Mel Urbach has said the lawsuit was intended to ensure that the World Council, composed primarily of Satmar hassidim, was not excluded from the Jewish-Swiss negotiations over the dormant accounts. The WJC did not comment, telling the New York weekly newspaper, the *Forward*, that it has not yet received the summons.

The Government of Israel through the Government Companies Authority hereby announces

that it is considering to sell all the shares held by the State of Israel (hereinafter: "the State Shares"), in: The Israel School of Tourism Ltd. (hereinafter: "the Company") private company 51-035774-2 Parties other than "Government Corporations" (as such term is defined in the below mentioned Sale Procedure) interested in purchasing the State Shares (77.94% of the issued company capital), may apply to the Government of Israel through the Government Companies Authority as specified in this announcement.

The Sale Procedure contains information regarding the remaining non-governmental holdings in the Company.

A Government Corporation will not be permitted to participate in the sale process on its own or as a part of an applicant group (as such terms are defined in the below-mentioned Sale Procedure).

Necessary application forms and documents — written in Hebrew — including the Procedure for Sale of the State Shares (above-mentioned and hereinafter: "the Sale Procedure"), may be purchased as of Sunday, April 13, 1997 from Mr. Ofer Termechi, Government Companies Authority, 1 Kaplan St., 7th floor, Room 722, Jerusalem (hereinafter: "the Government Companies Authority Offices"), Tel. 02-5317449; Fax. 02-5611680, for a sum of NIS 500 (which shall not be refunded), payable by a bankers cheque to the Ministry of Finance — the Accountant General.

The final date for submitting applications, according to the conditions set forth in the Sale Procedure, is Wednesday, May 14, 1997 at 17:00 at the Government Companies Authority Offices. The Government Companies Authority may at any time, by way of a published announcement, extend or advance the final date for submission of applications, as well as change other dates and conditions in the Sale Procedure, at its sole and absolute discretion.

The Government shall be entitled, at its sole and absolute discretion, to select from among the applicants and from among other parties it may address, candidates who shall continue to participate in the sale process, after considering which candidates best satisfy the requirements specified in the Sale Procedure, including among others, the capability to manage and develop the business of the Company, the existence of financial capabilities for the purchase of the State Shares and for the operation of the Company and its various business activities and other requirements, specified in the Sale Procedure.

The sale of the State Shares is exempt from the obligation to hold a tender, under the "Obligation of Tenders Regulations - 1993".

In order to remove any doubt, it is hereby clarified that this announcement does not constitute an invitation to the general public to purchase the State Shares, nor does it constitute an offer or undertaking on the part of the Government to sell the State Shares. The purchaser of the State Shares shall be determined in accordance with the Sale Procedure, including negotiations which the Government may, at its sole and absolute discretion, conduct, if it shall decide to proceed with the said sale of the State Shares.

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